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ZERO OPTION 'INCOMPATIBLE' WITH MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD071954 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Washington is countering the Soviet Union's latest concrete proposals on a considerable reduction of nuclear arms in Europe to equal levels for NATO and the USSR with an increasing number of propaganda actions in favour of Reagan's notorious "zero option," this "option" calls for the dismantling of all the Soviet medium range missiles on the entire territory of the USSR while leaving all the nuclear missiles NATO has today absolutely intact.

Statements of Washington's official spokesmen on nuclear arms in Europe usually resemble one another like old worn-out gramophone records. However, sometimes there are exceptions.

For instance, speaking in an NBC TV programme last Sunday, U.S. General Rogers, supreme allied commander Europe, revealed the true goals of the U.S. Administration as regards nuclear missiles in Europe. He said he still believed that the governments of West European countries would begin deploying new U.S. missiles by the end of this year, in accordance with the well known NATO decision.

Immediately contravening his own statement, he began heaping praise on the self-same "zero option" as the only possible solution. I still believe, he said, that we will be able to secure the adoption of the "zero option", he said.

Meanwhile, the "zero option" even as the Americans understand it is incompatible with the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe. One thing rules out the other. According to Reagan's version, the United States should renounce in exchange for the Soviet Union's unilateral disarmament the plans to deploy Pershings and cruise missiles in Europe and to limit itself to retaining on the continent its own forward-based forces and the nuclear systems of its NATO allies.

Having mixed up Washington's true goals and its propaganda aims, General Rogers graphically demonstrated that the American side uses the "zero option" at the Geneva talks as a cover for its plans to deploy nuclear missiles on the continent. It is this that constitutes the true meaning of Reagan's version.

Rogers further touched upon the question of counting the British and French missiles in the total balance of the forces of NATO and the Warsaw treaty member-countries. The U.S. general directly stated that he was against taking account in any form of the missiles of those two members of the North Atlantic alliance at the talks because those missiles were very helpful! [exclamation mark as received] To him as supreme allied commander Europe, one could hardly have put it more blandly.

Lately, obviously trying to influence the outcome of the parliamentary elections in West Germany, Washington has been spreading patently false rumors that the U.S. is "softening" its stance at the talks on nuclear arms in Europe.

The news inspired by Washington that it is willing to "show flexibility" and to accept a compromise at the talks with the USSR has so far been absolutely groundless. One gets the impression that Washington is going to spread these rumors until U.S. nuclear missiles have actually been deployed in Western Europe.

As for the "zero option," it remains quite unrealistic and unacceptable as the basis for an agreement on nuclear arms in Europe. The Soviet Union can by no means accept this plan because it would be tantamount to a dramatic break down of the parity in armaments that has been achieved over many years.

MOSCOW TV VIEWS U.S. EFFORTS TO SELL ZERO OPTION

LD071925 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Commentary by political observer Igor Fesunenko in the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The constructive peaceful initiatives of the socialist countries, contained in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw treaty member-states, is meeting with the support and approval of the international public. Here is political observer Igor Fesunenko: One month after the signing of this historic document it would be impossible to enumerate all the prominent state leaders, politicians and public figures who have given it high appraisal. The Prague declaration was greeted with enormous interest in Europe, America, Asia and Africa. Let me remind you, for instance, that UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar appealed for it to be studied carefully. Austrian Federal Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, Vogel, Bahr and other leaders of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] party in the FRG -- and even a figure as close to Washington as Francis Pym, the British foreign secretary -- called it a document of exceptionally great importance.

Particular interest was aroused in the world public by the proposal, contained in the Prague declaration and addressed to the member-countries of the North Atlantic bloc, that a treaty should be concluded on mutual nonuse of military force and on upholding peaceful relations.

The positive response to this document throughout the entire world and in the United States itself was so great that Washington felt itself to be in a really dramatic situation; it was not possible to brush it aside and it was impossible to keep silent about it. Reagan's advisers rolled up their sleeves, an extensive program of propaganda countermeasures was hastily drawn up and high-ranking state officials were quickly dispatched all over the world on what Zbigniew Brzezinski described as rescue operations. They were to extinguish the mistrust and scepticism caused by Washington's bellicose irreconcilability. These are precisely the aims being pursued by Vice President Bush, who is traveling around West Europe, by Secretary of State Shultz, who has gone to Asia, by Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States' UN representative, who has flown to Latin America, and by Reagan himself, who has been making speeches in his country almost every day.

These were also the motives behind publication of the President's notorious open letter to the people of Europe which revived the same old zero option and in a way more befitting a Hollywood hit movie than relations between great powers. He proposed that this American zero option should be endorsed by the signatures of the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. The people of Europe desire precisely this, the President said -- although no one knows when and how he managed to obtain a mandate from the people of Europe authorizing him to speak on their behalf.

Well, as Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov said in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent, summit meetings are particularly important for the solution of complex problems; for us it is not a matter of a political or propaganda game. No, we do not play such games, and in general we consider the peace of our planet is too important and serious for games to be played and intrigues to be woven around it, whether on behalf of the White House or on behalf of the peoples of Europe. They, incidentally, have their own judgements which do not by any means always coincide with Washington's, regarding their tasks and purposes and how to defend civilization from the horrors of an all-anninilating nuclear war.

WESTERN OPPOSITION TO ZERO OPTION NOTED

LD052236 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1244 GMT 5 Feb 83

[From the "International Review" program presented by political observer Lev Novikov]

[Text] Soviet-American talks on limiting and reducing nuclear weapons resumed in Geneva this week. The Soviet delegation is headed by Karpov and the American one by Rowny.

At the Geneva talks the Soviet delegation put forth some constructive new proposals taking as their starting point the principle of full equality between the Soviet Union and the NATO countries in both missiles and aircraft, which are also weapons carriers. In the view of the Soviet side, the lower the level of this equality the better. The need for such talks is being discussed not only in our country but also in Western Europe and even in the United States itself by those who realize to what an unrestrained arms race and the building up of nuclear potential can lead.

It is not by chance that from the moment Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies were published they became the main subject for all the world's media. If one analyzes the stream of responses to those replies coming from countries all over the world one can draw quite a definite conclusion: World opinion -- and in the first place European opinion, of course -- is against Reagan's zero option.

We recall that U.S. President Ronald Reagan proposed to the Soviet Union the signing of an agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe on American conditions; that is, that our country should do away with all of its missiles in the European part of the country and then American missiles would not be deployed in Europe. Given that there are already a fair number of medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads in Britain and France, then it is our country and the Warsaw Pact as a whole which are left with the zero while the North Atlantic bloc remains armed to a quite serious level. For, as is known, the French and British missiles are aimed neither at each other nor at the United States. In response to this, Comrade Andropov stated definitively: The Soviet Union will not go in for unilateral disarmament.

First and foremost this idea is described as "fair" in the West. Reagan's kind of arithmetic naturally cannot satisfy us and this is understood in the West. The leader of the British Labor Party, Michael Foot, has said that Reagan's zero option proposal is unrealistic and that the White House chief's message to the peoples of Europe is pure propaganda of the lowest kind intended to fool millions of people living in Western Europe.

The French press stresses that the Soviet position at the Geneva talks is precise and concrete and does not envisage, as Washington is trying to present it, a renunciation of the principle of Soviet-American summit meetings or of the search for mutually beneficial solutions. Thus the paper LE FIGARO writes that what the Soviet Union is refusing is to put its signature to the nonserious and unacceptable agreement which the Reagan administration is trying to foist on it in a frankly cynical way; either zero for both sides, or reductions of weapons but on an even basis taking account of the British and French nuclear forces.

So far the United States has not given an answer to the Soviet Union's proposal which is clearly and realistically based on the principle of equal security for both sides. This is something which can only be regretted, for if the delegations at Geneva do not reach an agreement, Europe is threatened with the deployment of American missiles on its territory at the end of the year to which the Soviet Union will respond in due fashion, although, as Comrade Andropov noted, that would not be our choice. That is why Reagan's zero option is being rejected, above all in Western Europe. Instead of lessening the threat of nuclear war, it in fact makes it greater.

PONOMAREV: WASHINGTON TO 'TORPEDO' GENEVA TALKS

LD071839 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 7 Feb 83

["On White House's Instructions" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS — TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The White House instructed U.S. Vice President Bush who is now staying in Italy to notify the Italian leaders that President Reagan fully supports the activity of the Italian authorities aimed at the investigation of the attempt on the pope's life, even if this will have a negative effect on the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms limitations in Geneva and will lead to their disruption. This was reported by the U.S. television company in its news programme last Sunday.

Such a straightforward statement by the President of the United States shows clearly who is it that is interested in the stirring up of the provocative hulaballoo against socialist countries that was raised in the West and who masterminds it. Moreover, the White House actually indicates in what direction the so-called "investigation" should be conducted.

All this throws the light on how anti-Soviet fabrications appear in the Western press, shows where provocations of the socialist countries originate. At one time it was said in the Congress and in the White House about "arbitrary actions" of the CIA so as to create the impression that it was staging its sordid operations on its own initiative.

Naturally, these were just the attempts of the U.S. official circles to dissociate themselves from the ill reputation of the CIA. In reality all the subversive actions of the CIA were staged with the blessing of the White House. Suffice it to recall the activity of the notorious "committee of 40" which was in the past under Henry Kissinger's guidance discussing and directing the CIA's secret operations against countries and regimes unsuitable for Washington, was masterminding attempts on the lives of political leaders, was instigating criminal elements at terroristic acts.

By all indications, such unsavoury deeds are now masterminded by even more high-ranking figures of the USA.

It is also necessary to note the ease with which the White House is prepared to torpedo the talks in Geneva on the reduction of nuclear armaments which represent the main threat to peace.

The attempts of the White House to link the talks in Geneva with the provocative machinations do not at all show Washington's striving to achieve agreement on problems of curbing nuclear arms race, problems that are of vital importance for mankind. It now becomes clear that this "investigation" directed from Washington, besides all over aims also pursues the aim of torpedoing the talks in Geneva.

PRAGUE DECLARATION NOT TO 'DIVIDE' WEST

LD080922 Moscow TASS in English 0854 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 8 TASS -- TASS commentator Ivan Chistov writes:

Some Western politicians try to interpret the Soviet position on medium-range missiles and the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries as an attempt to "divide" the West, to "split" NATO, to "wrest" the United States from Western Europe.

Such intentions have been attributed to the Soviet Union before, too, but the legitimate question arises: Has not the Soviet Union both before and after the war been the main champion of the idea of European collective security? Has not the Soviet Union been one of the initiators of the convocation of the European conference which was crowned in 1975 with the signing of the Final Act. The USSR did not attend the conference and sign this document in order to renounce subsequently the commitments of acting jointly with others for the sake of strengthening European peace.

Together and not apart -- this is the approach of the USSR and its allies on all matters and initiatives related to the situation on our continent, to its requirements and prospects. The Final Act was signed by the highest leaders of 33 European countries, the United States and Canada. They have to decide together along what road Europe is to proceed further. This is the immutable viewpoint of the Soviet Union, but to decide in the spirit of the Helsinki agreements and recommendations and not against them. The Final Act envisages promotion of detente, disarmament and weakening of the military confrontation. The proposals of the USSR and its Warsaw Treaty partners are in keeping with these recommendations. This cannot be said of the plans for the nuclear "rearming" of the western part of the continent with new American medium-range nuclear missiles. Those who are going to deploy these missiles and those who receive them act contrary to the Final Act, contrary to the will of the overwhelming majority of the population of the European states both in the east and in the west.

If the Soviet Union openly speaks out against such plans this does not mean at all that it intends to "divide" or "oust" someone. It only presses for one thing: that collective wisdom be displayed which enables to spare Europe of the lot of a nuclear holocaust. And that is why the Soviet proposals are addressed to all, why all are invited to discuss them. The Prague Political Declaration of the socialist states clearly expresses a willingness for a dialogue and cooperation with all who strive for the strengthening of peace, the maintenance and deepening of detente. This document, just as the well-known Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles, is permeated not with a spirit of disunity or confrontation, on the contrary, with a spirit of cooperation and search for common agreement.

It is widely believed that there have been no winners and no vanquished at the European conference in Helsinki. Neither can there be any in an nuclear war, only one victory makes sense and can triumph on our planet: May peace defeat war and common sense defeat recklessness.

UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT SEEK MILITARY SUPERIORITY

LD040002 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] A top Soviet military official has said that if the United States wants progress at the Geneva talks on nuclear weapons in Europe it should give up its attempts to attain military superiority.

Speaking in an interview with the NOVOSTI press agency General Nikolay Chervov noted that the Soviet Union approaches this problem from positions of equality and equal security. The general criticized the zero option proposal, emphasized by the United States Administration as aimed at a unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

He noted that in the general balance of forces in Europe it is essential to take into account the British and French nuclear missiles, which as is known are assigned for use against the Soviet Union. It makes no difference to the Soviet Union Gen Chervov stressed whose flag is on these missiles.

U.S. PLANS FOR TRIDENTS, SATELLITES VIEWED

PM072145 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS-attributed reports dated 7 February: "Whence Stems the Threat to Peace"]

[Text] New York -- The Reagan administration is accelerating the buildup of the U.S. first-strike nuclear potential with a view to violating the existing approximate balance of forces between the United States and the Soviet Union.

As THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, citing White House and U.S. Congress spokesmen, the Pentagon has revised in a sharply upward direction the program that it is already implementing at full speed for building the Trident submarine-based nuclear missile system.

According to new directives from the military department, in the next decade the U.S. Navy will receive 20 nuclear submarines of the Trident type, each of which has 24 Trident II nuclear ICBM's. This is five submarines more than was envisaged 2 years ago in the context of the program for building up the U.S. strategic nuclear arsenal.

Each Trident II missiles, which will come into service as early as 1988, can carry between 10 and 15 warheads with a power [moshchnost] almost five times greater than the current Trident I missile. They are greatly superior to current missiles in terms of accuracy and range, which is almost 10,000 km.

Implementation of the Trident program, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out, will require astronomical appropriations of the order of $42.5 billion in the next 15 years.

New York -- The United States is continuing to step up the arms race in space. As the journal BUSINESS WEEK reports, the Pentagon has formulated a long-term program for the development of a series of new satellites which will perform the functions of observing and tracking an "enemy" and will also ensure communications between all components of the U.S. Armed Forces "in any conditions, including the outbreak of nuclear war."

According to the journal, the main innovation in the new program is a "constellation" of large interactive satellites known as Milstar. The Pentagon intends to spend on this project the greater part of the $5 billion it has requested within the framework of the fiscal 1984 budget appropriations for improving the military communications system.

TASS REPORTS U.S. STEALTH MISSILE CONSTRUCTION

LD071645 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Ottawa February 7 TASS -- As a Washington correspondent of the Canadian newspaper CITIZEN has reported, work has been started in the USA to create new cruise missiles, "Stealth," for the U.S. Air Force.

According to the newspaper which refers to spokesmen of the U.S. Department of Defence, an improved modification of cruise missile designed to deliver nuclear warheads constitutes a more powerful strategic weapon system with a greater range of flight than the current air-launched missile made by the "Boeing" Corporation. Besides, the missile will be fitted out with electronic apparatus designed to make the missile "invisible" to radar stations and to air defence system. Funds for the creation of the new missile have been allocated under one of secret items of the Pentagon's budget in the current year. The creation of the "Stealth" cruise missile is expected to cost 6,000 million dollars.

SENATE HEARINGS ON ADELMAN NOMINATION REPORTED

LD042247 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1234 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Washington, 4 Feb (TASS) The R. Reagan administration is a violent opponent of arms control. All key posts in the American Government connected with the elaboration of policy in this very important field are occupied by figures who do not conceal their hostile attitude to the limitation of the arms race. This was the leitmotif of the speeches by members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during the Congress discussion of the nomination of K. Adelman, a former deputy permanent U.S. representative at the United Nations, who was appointed by President R. Reagan to the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

At the hearings on Adelman's nomination last week, as THE WASHINGTON POST put it, he "stunned the members of the committee with his statements and made a terrible impression on them." The man preparing to take up the post of head of the department responsible for the formation of American policy in the field of arms control, for example, 17 (!) times answered questions concerning elementary political problems with "I don't know."

In those cases when Adelman did express his opinion on political issues, it would have been more becoming for a wild hawk from the Pentagon than for the head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. As ABC television points out, "everyone knows about Adelman's statement that the talks on arms control are just a confidence trick the purpose of which is to placate the West European allies." The Americans have alsc not forgotten his statements to the effect that the talks with the USSR on disarmament issues are "pointless," as it were, until the United States completes upgrading its armaments.

Senator C. Pell (Democrat , from the State of Rhode Island) said openly that Adelman has no experience, authority or committment to the cause of disarmament. However, the Reagan administration is stubbornly pushing forward its protege by virtually twisting the arms of Republican senators on whom the approval of Adelman's candidature depends. During his second appearance at the hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he was surrounded by aides from the White House and the State Department. "To save him, the administration also hired a special expert on Congress," CBS television reports.

This is far from being the first occasion when the Reagan administration has appointed officials whose qualifications, mildly speaking, do not correspond to their posts. Thus, for instance, W. Clark, a close friend of Reagan's, was appointed assistant U.S. secretary of state despite the fact that during the hearings in Congress he demonstrated remarkable ignorance in the sphere of foreign policy.

In Adelman's case, however, observers notice something more than evidence of the administration's own incompetence. Not without reason, many senators see his appointment to the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency as a sure sign that the White House intends to persist in sabotaging the efforts directed toward curbing the arms race. "Many of us are concerned about the President's attitude on arms control," Senator Joseph Biden, Democrat from Delaware, said. "Some of us, like myself for example, do not think the President believes in arms control." And C. Percy, Republican from Illinois, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was forced to admit that "very many people in the United States and abroad doubt the sincerity of the present administration at the talks in Geneva."

NOVOYE VREMYA ON U.S. ARMS CONTROL APPOINTMENTS

PM071105 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 5, 28 Jan 83 p 9

[Article by A. Yugov: "Avoiding Zeal"]

[Text] Policy in the arms control sphere has been discussed animatedly in the United States in recent weeks. The reason has been the change of leadership in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. At the end of the year THE WASHINGTON POST noted that there was no one in the top echelons of power who was familiar with the very complex details of arms limitation questions or who had any influence on the President. Now everything is totally clear. Director Eugene Rostow was expelled from the agency and Deputy Director Robert Grey was not confirmed as director. This occurred on the eve of the Geneva talks resumption and under pressure from extreme rightists in the capitol headed by Senator J. Helms.

Rostow, a former member of the "Committee on the Present Danger," has himself always been a "hawk." His crime, the local press writes, is that as head of the agency he nonetheless advocated some kind of arms control. Rostow himself believes that Grey's candidacy was rejected by "people who are entirely reluctant to have any agreement with the Soviet Union" and that he suffered because he disobeyed Talleyrand's behest: "above all, avoid zeal...."

However that may be, it is precisely now when the new strategic arms systems are being put on the production line that the extreme rightists have demanded and won the right to the deciding vote on nuclear policy questions. It is hard to avoid the thought that they are acting with the administration's secret approval. As the press emphasizes, the administration is a long way from seeking agreement and is conducting talks only to gain time to build up its arms. And any activity on the agency's part only acts as a diversion from the main design.

Senator Helms has already stated that he is "very heartened" by the new appointments -- Kenneth Adelman as director of the agency and David Emery as his deputy. Neither has any serious idea of arms control problems or the slightest experience with negotiations. Formerly an assistant defense secretary and member of the leadership of the "Committee on the Present Danger," Adelman is opposed to the SALT II treaty and favors giving the arms race priority over talks. He was nominated as a candidate by the Pentagon. This detail is worthy of attention, since the agency has actually created as a counterweight to the military department. Under the present administration, obviously, no counterweight is required.

SOVIET UN ENVOY URGES TREATY ON NON-USE OF FORCE

LD020521 Moscow TASS in English 0505 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] New York February 2 TASS -- The Soviet delegation has confirmed its readiness to apply maximum effort for the earliest elaboration of a world treaty on non-use of force in international relations. Although the idea of signing such a treaty was advanced by the Soviet Union way back in 1976, it has not as yet been realised due to the stubborn resistance of the NATO member-states.

Addressing a meeting here of the U.N. special committee on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of non-use of force in international relations, the Soviet representative stressed the importance of making this principle a firm law, which would facilitate the overall improvement of the international climate and consolidation of peace.

The Soviet representative stressed that of particular importance is the problem of inadmissibility of use of nuclear weapons, since the buildup of increasingly more devastating types of weapons is rapidly continuing, attempts are being made up of waging nuclear wars -- short-term and protracted, limited and all-out.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

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["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Valeriy Kosovan, foreign political commentator of All-Union Radio, with Konstantin Ivanovich Semenov, candidate of history; Igor Petrovich Belyayev, journalist on international affairs; and Lev Semenovich Semeyko, candidate of military science]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] In their letters, our listeners asked questions on the issue of disarmament, and give their views on the ways of solving it. Above all, what we have here is a sincere concern to preserve peace. There is no exception in that respect. Probably if instead of looking at the editorial postbag but, say, the millions of cards with which Soviet people congratulate one another on the New Year or other festivals, there too, in various languages and worded in various ways, we would read one common idea: Let there be peace.

But let us go back to our editorial postbag. Here one has to say that there is a dual attitude to be seen on the issue of disarmament. For some listeners the solution appears a simple one. Everyday common sense causes them to wonder why one could not do things in such a way that, for example, there remained only light arms for the forces of order and that's all. An example of that is in the question from retired Dagestan school-teacher (Gadzhi Gadzhevich Gadzheyev) or, again, from Ivanovo textile worker (Smelyakova) and other listeners too. And there is another approach. I would describe it as a certain disbelief in the possibility of achieving disarmament. Listener (Gayazov) from Bugulma considers, for example, that all the efforts of the peace-loving countries are, as he puts it, mere empty phrases for NATO and Reagan.

Konstantin Ivanovich Semenov, candidate of historical sciences, has been looking at your letters, respected comrades. Over to you, Konstantin Ivanovich.

[Semenov] The experience that our country and the other socialist countries have in the struggle for disarmament shows that it is, of course, very difficult to achieve this task. Difficult, but not impossible. Disarmament is the ideal of socialism, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin wrote more than half a century ago. The very first international conference in which our country took part was in Genoa in 1922. The Soviet delegation came out with a program for the universal reduction of weapons. Since then, the Soviet Union has repeatedly proposed measures which were aimed at general and total disarmament. Yes, and to this day they have not received an answer. But does that mean that the efforts of our country were fruitless? No, it does not.

In the years of detente between the Soviet Union and the Western powers treaties and agreements were concluded which meant partial limitation of weapons. These treaties and agreements concerned the limitation of strategic offensive arms, measures to lessen the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the USA, the prevention of nuclear war, the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests. More than 100 states signed the treaty banning the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere, in space and under the water. More than 100 countries joined in the treaty on nuclear nonproliferation.

In a word, there has been progress. The Soviet Union continues to wage a persistent struggle against the arms race and for disarmament. The Soviet initiatives lead neither immediately nor automatically to treaties and agreements, of course, but they do provide a lead to them. And, in so doing, they play an important role; even if they do not immediately lead to results, they show all the countries of the earth the unswerving desire of the Soviet people for peace.

[Kosovan] Something which cannot be said of the present Washington administration. Replying to questions from a PRAVDA correspondent on Reagan's message to the people of Europe which proposes that the Soviet Union and the U.S. sign an agreement on medium-range missiles on the basis of the zero option, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov stated: Judging by this message, the U.S. does not want to seek a mutually acceptable accord with the Soviet Union and is thus intentionally dooming the Geneva talks to failure. And as regards a meeting between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the U.S. which was made conditional upon patently unacceptable terms for the Soviet Union, that unfortunately does not testify to the seriousness of the White House's intentions. And the fact that the Soviet Union is striving for peace was once again confirmed in the report by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov at the festive meeting on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

Moreover, in the Delcaration of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, adopted at the conference in Prague, we proposed a real basis for the reduction of strategic weapons. Is that not so, Konstantin Ivanovich?

[Semenov] Yes, readiness was expressed on a reciprocal basis to reduce strategic weapons by more than 25 percent and to freeze strategic arsenals while negotiations are in progress. The Soviet Union is prepared to agree to keep in Europe only as many medium-range missiles that would be a fair zero option.[as heard]

These initiatives are being widely discussed in the world. The most varied political forces are coming out in favor of a serious attitude towards them. The conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states in Prague fully supported Soviet proposals aimed at lowering the level of the arms race and at consolidating peace and security. The Warsaw Pact states put forward at that conference the proposal that between the defensive alliances of the socialist countries and NATO a treaty should be concluded on the mutual non-use of military force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations. A new Soviet initiative on setting up a broad zone free of battle-field nuclear weapons in Europe was put forward in response to a Swedish proposal. This is fresh testimony to our country's efforts to achieve progress on disarmament.

The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries are proceeding together along that road. And the successes which have been achieved in decades of struggling for disarmament allow one on the whole to look optimistically toward the future. Our aim is to stop the arms race and return to calm and proper relations between states and to detente. That is the dear and natural objective of all peoples. And for that reason one can say that the future belongs to it.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Konstantin Ivanovich.

[Kosovan] And now I invite to the microphone another participant in our program, Lev Semenovich Semeyko, candidate of military sciences. Lev Semenovich, we have just been discussing the response of the Soviet Union to the Swedish Government's proposal to set up a zone in Europe free of battlefield nuclear weapons. In this connection, our listeners Nikolay Mikhaylovich (Terentyev) from Dnepropetrovsk, Petr Ivanovich (Fedorov) from Moscow and many others ask: What are these weapons?

[Semeyko] Battlefield nuclear weapons or, as they are sometimes called, close-range nuclear weapons, is a concept used by the NATO countries. It refers to the nuclear ammunition deployed in the so-called battlefield zone, that is, in a zone up to 150 km back from the front line of troops or, in peacetime, the borders of states. If one talks of American nuclear ammunition, then in this zone in Europe is deployed approximately half of the U.S. nuclear potential on the European Continent.

The U.S. has approximately 3,000 nuclear artillery shells alone in Europe. They can strike various targets up to 30 km away. U.S. divisions and other formations of the NATO armed forces are armed with Lance missiles capable of delivering nuclear strikes at a range of up to 120-130 km. And at airfields in a zone up to 150 km back from the boundary dividing the countries of NATO and the Warsaw Pact there is a considerable number of tactical aircraft designed, again, to deliver nuclear strikes. A proportion of them is kept in constant combat readiness with nuclear weapons on board. NATO has nuclear mines or fougasses, as they are sometimes called. According to some Western data they number up to 300 units and, during combat operations, according to NATO plans, they are to be placed in pre-prepared concrete pits and then, depending on the circumstances, blown up. That is, so to speak, the material side of the question. We are talking about thousands of pieces of nuclear ammunition which are deployed in the so-called battlefield zone. Clearly, the proximity of their deployment to the border may accelerate the outbreak of a nuclear conflict, including as a result of an accident or mistake. In the interest of lessening the risk of a nuclear war, the Swedish Government proposed setting up a zone free of battlefield nuclear weapons; that is to move all nuclear ammunition back from a zone of 150 km on either side of the line separating the Warsaw Pact and NATO states. The Soviet Union supported that idea and developed it. The USSR proposes to expand the zone up to 250-330 km westwards and eastwards from the line of contiguity, thereby more effectively lessening the nuclear threat. Our country is ready to take part in appropriate talks if the NATO countries agree to holding them. However, from the NATO countries there have so far been only negative responses.

[Kosovan] Lev Somenovich, listeners (Zhilkin) from Srednyy [name indistinct] in Kursk Oblast asks: What is the meaning of dense-pack basing of MX missiles and why does their intended deployment contradict the SALT-II treaty?

[Semeyko] At the end of 1981 the U.S. Administration took a decision to deploy as of 1986, 100 MX intercontinental ballistic missiles. Later, the manner of deploying them, the so-called dense pack method, was projected. Under this method, the missiles would be located in missile silos deployed close together, that is at a distance of 500-600 metres one from another. The calculation was that with such a close proximity of one silo to another the missiles would supposedly be invulnerable to Soviet strikes. To destroy them the Soviet Union, the Pentagon thought, would have to deliver a strike hundreds or even more nuclear warheads simultaneously. But, the argument goes, since the warheads would fall with a time interval measured in seconds, the explosion of the first warheads would lead to the automatic destruction of other warheads arriving immediately thereafter. As a result, only some MX missiles would be destroyed while the others, left intact, would immediately deliver a counter-strike.

I would point out straight away that scenario of nuclear war has been invented by Washington. The Soviet Union does not intend to be the first to use nuclear weapons. This is witnessed by the solemn commitment which it has made and which was proclaimed last year from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly.

This so-called dense-pack basing for the MX missile is, therefore, not a way of somehow preserving them from the Soviet first strike. It -- that strike -- simply cannot be. In reality, the Pentagon does not so much want to ensure the invulnerability of these missiles as to deploy them, whatever the cost, as a real vehicle for an American first strike.

The deployment of the MX missiles in the new missile silos would contradict the SALT-II treaty which the U.S., although it has not ratified it, has nevertheless committed itself to observing. To observe, it is true, with reservations: It is adhering to it only to the extent that it does not contradict plans for building up the strength of the U.S. strategic forces.

Here is the rub: Although the first provisional agreement of 1972 and Article Four of the SALT-II treaty prohibit the construction of new missile silos, the U.S., as we see, is ready to violate that provision. There would be a breach, too, in the event that the MX missiles are deployed in silos in which Minuteman missiles are presently installed; that is, if there were a replacement of the missiles. Under Article Four of the SALT-II treaty, replacement may be carried out only in the event that in so doing, it is not necessary to increase the volume of the missile silos by more than 32 percent. But the installation of the MX missiles in the already existing silos would require them to be increased beforehand; it would require their volume to be increased by more than 32 percent. So, under that option, too, there would be a breach of accord.

But that is not all. Washington is also considering the option of creating dummy launch silos; that is, to put it more simply, empty missile silos so that Soviet satellites would not be able to locate where the American MX missiles are exactly. But, the deliberate obstruction of verification of missile deployment would again breach the Soviet-American accord. Finally, there would be a breach in the event that the area where the MX missiles are based should be covered by anti-missile installations; that is, a system of anti-missile defence or, as it is known for short, an ABM system. That system may only be used to protect intercontinental missiles in one of the areas in the northern United States or around Washington. The setting up of an ABM system in any other region is prohibited by the treaty signed in 1972. However, the U.S. leadership, as we can see, do not intend to take the accords which have been achieved into consideration.

The U.S. strategic arms race course is directly contrary to the Soviet-American accords which are curbing that race.

[Kosovan] From the many letters from our listeners asking about the situation in the Near East we have chosen those which concern the present policy of the Egyptian government. This is the subject, in particular, of a letter from Nikolay Ivanovich Rodin from Grozno and a letter from Kiryanov from Krasnodar. Igor Petrovich Belyayev, journalist on international affairs, doctor of history, will answer you. Igor Petrovich, please.

[Belyayev] It seems to me that such interest in the largest Arab country is a legitimate interest and all the more so since at one time our relations with Egypt were very good. We cooperated in the most important spheres of life, primarily in the economy, in culture, in science, and many others. And undoubtedly, the attention to everything that is happening on the banks of the Nile is still connected to the things that our fellow-citizens did there. Well, returning there 6 years after I was last in Cairo, I strolled around the streets of Cairo with great interest and found very, very interesting signs.

At one time in an area which is well known to all of us Soviet citizens who lived in Egypt, in (Zamalyk), many shops were given the names of our cities: Leningrad, Moscow and a few in our Soviet manner. Just imagine, all the names have been retained and what is more, their owners, with great enthusiasm, told me how at one time they were pleased to receive our fellow citizens in their establishments. Perhaps this is just a trifle, but, nonetheless, it shows that the Egyptians -- a very kind people, a people who at one time did a lot to promote the liberation of Arab countries and the whole Near East from the imperialist yoke -- the Egyptians have retained a fond memory of the Soviet Union. Everything that was done by our fellow countrymen at Aswan, on the banks of the Nile, in general, in the small but very important industrial town of Helwan near Cairo, in the port of Alexandria, all of this is now the subject of the most fixed attention and study.

The Egyptians speak with particular warmth of the selflessness of the Soviet Union and say that our country is the only one in the world which did so much for the Egyptian people. For its part, Egypt paid off all its debts to the USSR connected with the economic cooperation and technical assistance. And all the more, all these good feelings of the Egyptians towards us are as it were, a product of everything good that was done 10-15 years ago by the hands of Soviet people. And it seems to me that these good feelings towards us on the banks of the Nile are not just by chance. The point is that the Egyptians compare the policy of the USSR with the policy of the U.S., with the policy of Western Europe, with the policy of other capitalist countries and, as they told me themselves many times, our policy in their eyes contrasts favorably with the policies of all other countries.

President as-Sadat, of fond memory, opened Egypt's doors to foreign capital. In 1975 when I saw him for the last time he spoke very enthusiastically about how these open doors, a free market for West European and American capital, would work a miracle for Egypt. Well, no miracle occurred. After as-Sadat was shot by the Egyptian Army on 6 October 1981 [as heard], the country's leadership changed.

President Mubarak frequently declared that he intended to follow a national course and to conduct a policy which would be in accord with the vital interests of the people and, in particular, to return to the Arab ranaks, return to the Nonaligned Movement and normalize his relations with the USSR. And observing all of these new manifestations which have occurred in recent months in Egypt, one comes to the conclusion that the present head of the Egyptian state is really trying to move in this direction. But as yet little has been done.

Egypt has a so-called special relationship with the U.S. The Americans give the largest Arab country economic and military aid which both are counted in billions of dollars. And of course, Egypt today is not able to refuse the Americans' economic aid. For it is necessary to ensure a national economic development which would absorb the losses were Egypt to renounce foreign aid all together. And it seems that it is not so easy to do this now.

But at the same time, it is quite apparent that President Mubarak would like the national bourgeoisie to invest capital in vitally important spheres of the economy so as to raise the standard of living of the working people. It has been announced, in particular, that in the very near future the so-called -- in quotation marks -- "open door policy" should serve the needs of national development. How the present Egyptian leadership will manage to do this I cannot imagine, to tell the truth, for you cannot force foreigners to invest capital in those spheres of industry which Egypt greatly needs. Foreign capital seeks easy profit and this is primarily in trade, tourism, services, and only then heavy industry and even medium industry. Moreover, the flow of foreign goods which has flooded the Egyptian market has, as it were, forced Egyptian industry to compete with these goods. And it is difficult to compete, for the quality of Egyptian goods has declined in recent years and their position in their own home market is most unenviable.

The Egyptian national bourgeoisie is waiting to see what will happen next; will Mubarak's policy be too radical? Will he repeat the reforms of the late President Nasir? Will he announce the construction of a socialist society or a progressive society on the banks of the Nile? I think that these fears are unfounded, but nonetheless, as yet there is no mutual understanding or cooperation between the Egyptian national bourgeoisie and the new leadership of the country.

The opposition parties are still viewing optimistically everything that is happening in the country. The struggle has begun against corruption.

The trial of President as-Sadat's brother is underway. The whole as-Sadat clan and the whole Egyptian parasitical bourgeoisie together with Ismat as-Sadat is, as it were, on trial. For these people did nothing for the past decade except amass vast sums of money.

Moreover, it is very important now that the front has been opened, following the death of President as-Sadat, connected with the consolidation of democracy. The opposition parties are awaiting honest parliamentary elections to be held in Egypt in the near future. If there is no fiddling the Peoples National Assembly will contain deputies representing all the country's political forces. And these include not only the ruling National Democratic Party and the opposition party, these include the patriotic forces which support left-wingers and which come out against the Camp David policy, against the special relationship with the U.S. and for normalization of relations with the USSR.

[Kosovan] Igor Petrovich, on this matter it would be interesting to hear the opinions of the Egyptians, themselves.

[Belyayev] What was immediately apparent to me when Egyptians -- on their own initiative, by the way -- spoke about this normalization was that leaders of the opposition parties as well as representatives of the most varied newspapers, magazines, and establishments said that what was needed was not just normalization, not just the return of ambassadors to Cairo and Moscow. As is known, in September 1981, as-Sadat ordered the expulsion of the ambassador of the Soviet Union from Egypt; of course the accusations were most absurd, but nonetheless this sad fact took place and now Cairo is wondering how to make a step towards...finally, as a result of the normalization which has begun, ensuring that it should end with steps which would suit both sides. [sentence as heard]

It seems to me that the beginning or, even the resumption -- this would be more accurate -- of economic ties, technical cooperation, cultural cooperation which is already taking place, directly serves this same process of normalization. True, some of the people I talked with, especially deputies of the Peoples Assembly, representatives of the ruling circles said that, allegedly, the nature of relations with the U.S. would not change. But at the same time I heard other arguments that the improvement, resumption, normalization of relations with the USSR should be such that in the future Egypt would not worsen relations with our country just to please the U.S. Such a statement of the question seems to me to be very sober. And, I think, the dialogue which is now underway between our countries is useful and in the future might have an effect on the situation in the Near East and throughout the world.

Under conditions in which the U.S. is trying to use Egyptian territory for its military plans in the Near East, when it is trying to drag Egypt into its far-reaching strategic plans, not only in this region but in adjoining regions, in southern Asia, in central Africa, against this background Egypt, naturally, is losing. And it seems to me that an important tendency now on the banks of the Nile is that after the tragedy of Lebanon a great many Egyptians understand that the U.S. is supporting Israel excessively and Israel, breaking every kind of rule of the game, as it were, in the Near East, is not only conducting destructive wars, aggressive wars, against its Arab neighbors, but also does not in the future intend to give up military means as a solution to political problems. And the fact that Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv, the fact that Egypt openly criticizes the policy of Israel -- which has not by the way, returned the Taba region, on the Sinai Peninsula, which belongs to it despite the existence of the separate, so-called, peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

All of this shows that Egypt is moving slowly but surely towards the Arabs and not away from them and is overcoming the position in which it found itself after Camp David. Naturally, we disagree about Camp David. For the Egyptians, the peace treaty with Israel seems to have helped with a lot of things, including the return of the Sinai Peninsula. But it seems to me that Egypt's losses in the years that passed since the start of the implementation of the Camp David policy were much greater than what it acquired.

In general, I would like to stress that today the situation in Egypt is not easy and that the new leadership is trying to cope with this difficult situation. It is very difficult for it and the attempts of this new leadership to do everything to normalize relations with the USSR, it seems to me, are of a positive nature. At the same time, one cannot but see some negative sides of the policy of Egypt which are criticized both in the Arab world and throughout the Near East.

BORIS KOTOV IN 'INTERNATIONAL REVIEW' COLUMN

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[Boris Kotov "International Review"]

[Text] Failed Maneuver

In the past week the world has witnessed the failure of a large-scale propaganda action launched by Washington, so the foreign press writes, in response to the "peace offensive by the USSR and its allies." The reference is to the operation to rescue the so-called "zero option" put forward by U.S. President R. Reagan back in November 1981 as the only prescription for a result at the Soviet-American talks under way in Geneva on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. The ultimate goal of this venture is clear -- by wrecking the talks, to secure the implementation of the NATO decision on deploying new American medium-range missiles on the territory of a number of West European countries in 1983.

The operation was prepared carefully and on a big scale. After a series of conferences in the American capital a special group of ranking administration figures was set up; it was called upon to "quell the fear" of the American missiles in West Europe and to convince the public of the "love of peace" of the present White House incumbent and his "sincere desire" for nuclear disarmament. Even advertising companies, which are practiced at palming all kinds of unsuitable goods off on the public at large, were recruited for the task.

U.S. Vice President G. Bush set off to West Europe on a long "rescue expedition" as American observer J. Kraft put it. However, his mission was patently doomed to failure.

"U.S. President R. Reagan has sent Bush to Europe with the aim of lessening the influence of the Soviet Union's recent peace initiatives on public opinion in the West European countries," Britain's THE GUARDIAN newspaper wrote the other day. "Washington intends to rally its NATO allies and to eliminate the doubts afflicting certain governments over the West's position regarding the American missiles." An important part of the vice president's task, Western observers note, was also to offer support on the eve of the parliamentary elections in the FRG to the present Bonn leadership headed by Christian Democrat H. Kohl, who follows Washington's lead on the question of NATO's missile "arms upgrading."

What means was the transatlantic political salesman intending to use to fulfill the task facing him? On the eve of his trip many newspapers in the West were talking of some kind of "shifts" in the American course, of a wish to display "flexibility" in response to the Soviet proposals and of Washington's desire for a "compromise" at the Geneva talks.

However, Bush's very first statements demonstrated that he had come to Europe empty-handed. Unless you count, of course, the stale propaganda commodity of the "Soviet threat."

The hopes pinned on the "heavy artillery" represented by the American President's message "to the peoples of Europe," which Bush read out so noisily and suddenly during his stay in West Berlin, were not vindicated either. This propagandist venture, designed for sensation, burst like a soapbubble almost before it had begun.

British Labor Party leader Michael Foot called the American President's message "to the peoples of Europe" the cheapest of propaganda, designed to dupe the undiscriminating man in the street. Similar descriptions of this document hastily prepared in Washington chancelleries can now be found in major foreign press organs. The point is not the clumsiness or hastiness of the text, but the very essence of Washington's position, the emptiness and meaninglessness of its propagandist capers. These are not backed up by any specific, constructive action aimed at lessening the threat of war, action that the concerned peoples are awaiting so keenly today.

On the contrary, as recently as these last few days all unprejudiced people have been able to judge from the Washington administration's practical steps the unchanged nature of its course, dangerous to the cause of peace, toward building up military muscle, toward achieving the notorious military superiority, toward confrontation, and toward fueling international tension. Surely this is shown, for instance, by the draft state budget submitted by President Reagan to the U.S. Congress, which envisages yet another sharp leap in the buildup of military spending?

The Strength of Genuine Love of Peace

The true purpose of the political speculations of certain Western circles was revealed in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's answers to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions. First of all, it was stated with the utmost clarity that the Reagan message's proposal that the USSR and the United States sign on American terms an agreement on the elimination of ground-launched medium-range missiles contains nothing new. It is a question -- and the world's news agencies immediately noted this -- of the same old "zero option." It is now generally recognized that it is deliberately unacceptable to the Soviet Union.

Indeed, in West Europe, for instance, the politicians who have still not comprehended that self-evident truth can now be literally counted on the fingers. But is this why, let us remark in passing, Washington is seeking supporters of its proposal all over the world? This week U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, who is on a trip round the Far Eastern countries, succeeded in recruiting to the camp of admirers of Reagan's "zero option"...Japanese Premier Nakasone.

However, is it possible to speak seriously of a proposal whereby the Soviet Union would be supposed to "reduce to zero," to destroy unilaterally all its medium-range missiles while the United States and its NATO allies would retain all the nuclear weapons of this category in their possession? As a result of this operation, instead of the approximate equality which now exists between the opposing nuclear forces in Europe, the NATO countries would obtain a twofold superiority in terms of delivery vehicles for nuclear charges (there are around 1,000 of these on each side at the moment) and a threefold superiority in the charges themselves (NATO already has a 50 percent advantage).

It is precisely this unrealistic U.S. posture that is blocking, as increasingly broad circles of the Western countries' public now realize, progress at the talks in Geneva. The fact that the U.S. President has now reaffirmed this posture shows one thing: Washington clearly does not want to seek a mutually acceptable accord with the Soviet Union and is thus deliberately deadlocking the Geneva talks.

For the USSR will not embark on unilateral disarmament. No one must have any illusions on that score. And if matters reach the point where the new American missiles are deployed in Europe, then, the interview said, "we will respond in due fashion." But that would not be our choice, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov remarked.

Indeed, the whole world knows that the Soviet land is in favor of another path in solving this extremely acute problem. The measures proposed by the Soviet Union are part of the wide range of peace initiatives that it has put forward recently and that were approved by all the Warsaw Pact states at the January conference in Prague.

The USSR proposes not having nuclear weapons at all, neither medium-range nor tactical, in the zone of Europe. This would be, so to speak, "absolute zero" for both sides. Since the United States will not proceed to that, we are also prepared for a solution whereby the Soviet Union would have no more missiles than the NATO side now has in Europe.

Here there would be no Soviet and American medium-range missiles confronting one another at all and the USSR would retain only precisely as many such missiles as Britain and France, which, as is well known, are members of the North Atlantic alliance, possess. This means that the USSR would reduce hundreds of missiles, including several dozen of the most modern missiles, called SS-20's in the West. And if the number of British and French missiles decreased in the future, the number of Soviet missiles would be further reduced by just as many.

At the same time, the Soviet proposals envisage, an accord must be reached on reducing on both sides the number of aircraft carrying medium-range nuclear weapons possessed in the given region by both the USSR and the NATO countries. Thus complete equality would be secured in terms of both missiles and aircraft -- equality at an incomparably lower level than now.

The Soviet Union, it was stated in Moscow, is prepared to sign such an agreement based on the principle of equality and equal security. Is the U.S. President prepared to do this. As yet that question remains unanswered.

The constructiveness, realism and well-reasoned nature of the USSR's positions on the problem of limiting nuclear arms in Europe are today noted all over the world. Just as our serious and considered approach to the question of a Soviet-American summit is welcomed in many Western capitals.

So far as the Soviet Union is concerned, as Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted, this is not a question of a political or propaganda game. A meeting between the USSR and U.S. leaders aimed at finding mutually acceptable solutions to urgent problems and at developing relations between our countries would be useful to the Soviet Union and the United States, to Europe and to the whole world.

But when the U.S. President makes a meeting conditional on the Soviet Union's agreement to the deliberately unacceptable solution he is offering of the problem of nuclear arms in Europe, this is by no means evidence of a serious approach to this question on the part of the American leadership.

The peace-loving Western public has reacted with ardent interest, understanding and support to the positions and proposals set out by the Soviet leader regarding the most urgent problems of the international situation. Certain transatlantic newspapers are lamenting in this connection that the Soviet leadership has "outplayed" the American leaders. We will leave the terminology to the authors' conscience, but the thrust of what is happening is accurately noted!

The strength of the Soviet peace initiatives lies in their essence, in our country's genuine love of peace and in its readiness for practical, specific action in the name of preserving peace.

Impertinence of Aggressors

"A greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates" -- it looks as though that crazy slogan is becoming a real action program for the present Tel Aviv rulers.

The aggressors have no intention of withdrawing voluntarily from the occupied Arab lands. Over 130 paramilitary Zionist outposts have already been constructed on the usurped territories and it is planned to create dozens more.

Terror, violence and genocide against the native Arab population are the criminal methods whereby the occupiers clear "living space" for themselves. WAFA reported 2 February that the Begin government has decided to eliminate all the Palestinian refugee camps that exist on the occupied Arab lands, resettling their residents in waterless desert regions.

The aggressors are now acting in the same bandit-like ways on the territory of Lebanon. This week the Israeli military have continued their attempts to invade the southern and south-eastern suburbs of Beirut, intending to surround the Palestinian refugee camps there and stage bloody reprisals. They are continuing punitive operations and raids [oblavy] in many regions of Lebanon.

Disturbing reports are coming in from the Lebanese-Syrian border region. Large Israeli army subunits are being assembled there, near the Al-Biqa' Valley, and tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery and mortar batteries, engineering equipment, ammunition, and military materiel are being transferred from Israel. The interventionists have stepped up their bombardments of the positions of the Syrian troops operating in Lebanon as part of the inter-Arab peacekeeping forces in the country. Israeli Air Force planes make regular reconnaissance flights over the Syrian troop formations in the Al-Biqa' Valley.

All this is being accompanied by open Israeli threats against the Syrian Arab Republic. In the quest for a pretext for the aggression that is clearly being prepared, Tel Aviv and Washington, which is egging it on to further expansion, have now kicked up a provocative fuss over the legitimate measures taken by Damascus to strengthen Syrian air defense, measures dictated by the threatening situation that has been created.

This is fresh imperialist collusion aimed at consolidating the fruits of Israeli expansion and at expanding the American political and military presence in the Near East region, which is vigorously opposed by the Syrian Arab Republic, along with the forces of the Palestinian resistance. The sinister role of the United States, which supports, finances, and arms the Israeli aggressors with the aim of establishing, with their help, a regime of imperialist diktat in the Near East and eliminating progressive Arab forces, has again been exposed.

"Washington and Tel Aviv," the Syria TIMES, a Damascus newspaper, writes in this connection, "make no secret of their intentions of striking against Syria in order to end all hopes of the restoration of flouted Arab rights and the return of the lands usurped by force. Syria's position is at the present time the main obstacle in the way of the American-Israeli plans for establishing hegemony in the Near East region."

The imperialist intrigues against Syria demonstrate graphically once again what an urgent task a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East problem is. Life itself has proved that the real path to this is not the separate deals that the United States and its local minions are trying to foist on the Arab countries after the Camp David pattern but the convening of a representative international conference on the Near East, as the Soviet Union proposes. It is also clear that the prevailing explosive situation, more than ever, demands vigilance, cohesion, and unity of action by all Arabs.

The impertinence of the Israeli aggressor, who is capable of any adventures, as experience has shown, is causing increasing indignation in the world. The United States is certainly fueling Tel Aviv's brigand-like policy and actions. But this policy is short-sighted and futile in the long term. The Israeli aggression must be ended -- that demand of the peoples is ringing out increasingly loudly in the world.

SOVIET DELEGATE SAYS ACCORD POSSIBLE AT CSCE

LD071628 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Madrid February 7 TASS -- The USSR delegation at the Madrid follow-up meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has arrived here. The delegation is headed by Anatoliy Kovalyov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

In answer to a question put by a TASS correspondent, whether prospects for a favourable completion of the Madrid meeting have come into view, the leader of the Soviet delegation noted that, unfortunately, one cannot yet say so. Is it possible to reach accord at the Madrid-meeting stage beginning on February 8? Yes, it is, the deputy minister answered. It is important that everyone understand, it would seem, the evident truth that success of the Madrid meeting equally -- from the viewpoint of the present and future -- meets the interest of all the states which participated in the European conference.

For the meeting to lead to positive substantial results, Anatoliy Kovalyov said, it is necessary first of all that further attempts at imposing fruitless confrontation on the Madrid forum, at interfering in internal affairs and at putting forward proposals which are obviously unacceptable to the negotiating partners be put aside.

In short, the leader of the Soviet delegation emphasised, it is required that a real political will be shown on the part of all capitals and delegations of the participating states. The Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries have such will. It has been explicitly expressed in the Prague declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

TASS Analyst Comments

LD071712 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Vladimir Serov writes:

The Madrid follow-up meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe resumes its work on February 8. Of particular importance in the present-day complex international situation is to reach agreement at the meeting on the convocation of a conference of confidence-building measures and on security and disarmament in Europe. Such a conference is called upon to make a big contribution to lessening military confrontation, to diminishing distrust and to solving matters aimed at reducing the armed forces and armaments in this part of the world.

An important role from the viewpoint of military detente in Europe belongs to the FRG which is at the junction of two military and political groupings opposing each other and in the territory of which a huge amount of conventional and nuclear armaments is already deployed and a large part of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles is planned for deployment. In a statement concerning the resumption of the Madrid meeting, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the FRG declared for its successful completion and called on the USSR and its allies to conduct negotiations in Madrid "in all seriousness".

But have not the Soviet Union and its allies made and continue to make tremendous efforts to get the work of the Madrid meeting moving? Is it not the obstructionist tactics of the USA and its closest NATO allies that prevents a successful completion of the Madrid meeting? It is not they who try to sidetrack the work of the meeting from a solution to its chief task -- to ensure military detente and to lower the level of military confrontation in the continent?

Washington stubbornly pursues a line towards raising the level of military confrontation and towards turning Western Europe into a U.S. nuclear-missile ammunition dump and into a launching site for U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles, the site advanced to the borders of socialist countries. Such a policy by no means enhances the security of Western Europe but, on the contrary, draws the threat of a nuclear catastrophe on its peoples.

Washington camouflages this most-dangerous-to-the-Europeans policy by demogogical calls for the "zero option" while it obviously knows that this option is unacceptable to the USSR and its allies. Unfortunately, some leaders of NATO countries, among them the chancellor of the FRG, follow in Washington's wake, unreservedly supporting its course, although it obviously contradicts the vital interests of the West European countries and first of all those of West Germany which the USA is ready to turn into a potential arena of a devastating nuclear conflict. By exposing the West Europeans to a strike, the Pentagon strategists expect to avert a nuclear conflagration as far as possible away from the territory of America.

The chief task of all European peoples is to prevent the realisation of those mad designs. The participants in the Madrid meeting, too, should make their contribution to the accomplishment of this task.

INTERNATIONAL 'PEACE' CONFERENCE OPENS IN VIENNA

LD061646 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] An international conference of representatives of the public of European countries, the United States and Canada, began today at the Hofburg Palace in Vienna. Our correspondent Igor Charikov reports from the Austrian capital:

The conference is devoted to one of the most important problems of the present time: how to eliminate the threat of war in Europe. This forum is geing held on the initiative of eminent political and public figures from the countries participating in the CSCE. Among them are Sean MacBride, chairman of the committee of nongovernment organizations on disarmament and Lenin Peace Prize winner, Belgian economist Raymond Godr, [as received] president of the International Committee for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and Bernt Engelmann, eminent German literary figure and chairman of the FRG Writers' Union, and many others. Soviet public opinion is represented at this conference by Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet committee for European security and cooperation and chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet; the world's first women cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova, and others. The conference will hear papers in which representatives of three of the world's continents voice their views on how to rid ourselves of the threat of war, by what means to ensure the reduction of the nuclear missiles arsenals accumulated in the world, and how to maintain and fortify peace. The conference will continue until 9 February.

NEW REPRESENTATIVE TO UN GENEVA OFFICE APPOINTED

LD061304 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 6 TASS -- Mikhail Sytenko has been appointed permanent representative of the USSR to the office of the United Nations and other international organisations at Geneva.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has relieved Zoya Moronova of her duties as the USSR's permanent representative to the office of the U.N. at Geneva in connection with retirement.

MEDIA CONTINUE TO FOLLOW BUSH TOUR OF WEST EUROPE

'Delicate' Mission in Vatican

LD071630 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

The visit by U.S. Vice President George Bush to the Vatican and his meeting with Pope John Paul the Second are regarded by many organs of the West European and U.S. press as part of a campaign of pressure which Washington launches these days in the effort to overcome the growing resistance of the broad public to the U.S. plans of sped-up deployment of U.S. missiles Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The participants in the anti-missile movement protest against the plans of turning Western Europe into a launch pad of nuclear war. Washington is trying to camouflage its real aims by means of the pseudo zero option of the U.S. President which has been advanced clearly with the intention to block the talks in Geneva, to doom them to failure. This is why Bush during his tour of Europe is publicising in his every speech the "zero option" which, in the opinion of serious specialists on both sides of the Atlantic, is absolutely unrealistic and inacceptable.

On the eve of the meeting in the Vatican the London TIMES wrote that Bush will have to face in the Vatican one of the most "delicate" aspects of his mission. Indeed, it was already written much about Washington's striving to influence the position of the Vatican and the Catholic Church as a whole. As is known, special concern of the Washington administration was caused in the past year by a draft pastoral letter adopted by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. In that document the key provisions of the White House's nuclear strategy are proclaimed as amoral while nuclear war which the Washington administration regards to be quite possible in different versions, from a "limited" to a "protracted", is described as "mortal sin".

Despite very persistent and even crude attempts of the administration, including such of its representatives as Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and assistant to the President for national security affairs William Clark, to exert pressure on the pastors representing 50 million American Catholics, the second draft pastoral letter which appeared several months after the first draft proved to be even more resolute in that part which condemns the preparation for a nuclear war. Archbishop of Chicago Bernardin answered Clark and other high placed representatives of the Regan administration that the clergy will not be intimidated.

Reports appeared in the press many times that official Washington tried to draw the Vatican into its pressure compaign on the clergy by sending into the Vatican former CIA deputy director, Ambassador at Large Vernon Walters (secretly, on the President's directive, as the press reported).

By all indications, Bush's current visit to the Vatican confirms that Washington's attempts at pressure have not stopped at all.

American observer Mary McGrory wrote ironically that various members of the U.S. Administration started exerting themselves to convince the clergymen that mankind's future is none of their concern. These insistent suggestions were unsuccessful in the United States proper and they will undoubtedly flop in the same way, or even more obviously in Western Europe.

Italian Press Reaction Cited

PM072025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Text] TASS -- U.S. Vice President G. Bush, who has arrived here on an official visit, has met with Italian Council of Ministers Chaiman A. Fanfani and Foreign Minister E. Colombo. As the ANSA agnecy reports, during the talks there was a discussion of various international problems, primarily the problem of the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. As is known, the Italian Government, despite public protests, was the first to agree to the siting of American cruise missiles on the country's territory. Addressing journalists here, Bush repeated the well-known American position on this question and called for the siting of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Commenting on his statements, the newspaper LA STAMPA stresses that "Reagan's emissary said nothing new to add to what he said recently in Bonn, West Berlin, The Hague, Brussels and Geneva." CORRIERE DELLA SERA writes that "Bush's European tour is becoming increasingly difficult" and that for the most part he has had to listen to criticism from indignant Europeans.

British Resistance Predicted

LD080200 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Our political observer Anatoliy Gan assesses the London stopover in the European tour of the American Vice President George Bush. This is what he writes:

Ten Cambridge scientists, among them the Nobel Prize-winning astronomer Sir Martin Ryle, have written a book explaining that mankind has to choose between nuclear disarmament and perishing in flames, and that nuclear deterrence cannot serve as a means of preventing war. In short, the choice man faces in our age is a simple one: It is one or the other.

Now let us ask ourselves what choice is being offered by the American Administration through its emissary, Vice President George Bush, whose visit to London concludes his 12-day tour of the West European capitals. According to his own definition, the vice president's tour had the purpose of getting to know the mood of America's friends in those capitals. In reality, however, the tour war undertaken to counteract the mounting resistance of the West Europeans to the plans to deploy new American missiles on their soil -- missiles that hold out a very real threat of starting a nuclear war.

The main propaganda weapons in the vice president's bag have been President Reagan's letter to the people of Europe, and this weapon has clearly misfired. Throughout the countries of Western Europe the President's letter has been summed up as pure propaganda and a tactical trick directed against European opinion on the subject of the deployment of the American missiles. In his letter, the American President once again repeats his unacceptable zero option, which requires that the Soviet Union unilaterally give up all its medium-range missiles while the United States and its NATO allies retain all the missiles of this class that they have in Europe.

Such an unrealistic attitude shows that the United States doesn't want to seek a mutually acceptable agreement and is thereby deliberately dooming the Geneva talks to failure. Some results of the Bush tour of Western Europe have already been discussed in the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT. It says that if Bush during his tour of the allied capitals takes note of the real voice ot Europe, he will return to Washington with the alarming news that the United States is losing the propaganda battle with the Soviet Union.

But the fact is that it is Washington that is waging the propaganda battle in an effort to justify in European eyes the American Administration's reckless policy of preparing a nuclear war in Europe. As for Moscow, it is replying to Washington's propaganda campaign with realistic proposals.

According to these proposals, the Soviet Union would have just as many missiles in Europe as the NATO countries have there. At the same time, agreement would be reached on bringing down to a common level the number of medium-range aircraft carrying nuclear weapons and there would thus be complete equality in both missiles and aircraft, moreover equality at a level much lower than the present one. Viewed against the background of these realistic and concrete proposals Vice President Bush's propaganda mission has clearly failed to achieve the objectives Washington set before it.

Significantly just before the vice president's arrival in London, the American press saw fit to warn even so loyal a Reagan supporter as Mrs Thatcher that it will not be easy to persuade the British public to back the United States missile policy all down the line. The fact is that the peace movement is becoming increasingly militant. Already there have been warnings that the arrival of American missiles in the country would spark off a civil disobedience campaign. Evidently Mr George Bush will see for himself in London that the vast majority of the British public have made the correct choice between nuclear disarmament and death in the flames of a nuclear war which, according to a Pentagon scenario, would be waged in Europe.

All Illusions Dispelled

LD080242 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Some time go President Reagan said changes were in store, much as Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said. That was happy news for many people not only in the United States, but abroad too. But the President didn't keep people waiting long. Here's more from Georgiy Sturua, and this is what he writes.

A few days after saying changes were in store, the President submitted a draft budget to Congress. The draft shows the administration is loyal to the policy it adopted at the very start. In fiscal 1984 the administration intends to boost military spending by 14 percent and make further cuts in many social programs. It's also clear now there'll be no changes in foreign policy either.

The West European tour of Vice President Bush has dispelled all illusions. Officials said the vice president was going for consultations with America's allies on arms limitation, not for negotiations. Unofficially the tour was called a rescue operation. Indeed, the administration is having to rescue its reputation as a supporter of disarmament, its image of elder brother of West Europeans, and its plans for missile rearmament, so it took the preparations for the tour very seriously. But the aims of the visit were surprisingly far from serious. Vice President Bush is supposed to convince doubting West Europeans of things that run counter to common sense. As envoy of President Reagan, he is supposed to explain to them that MX and Pershing missiles are intended for disarmament and that the Soviet peace initiatives are more dangerous than nuclear bombs.

Unfortunately the administration shows no willingness to reduce the threat of nuclear war and calm the fears stemming from this threat. It seems to have set its sights on neutralizing the Soviet peace offensive. In the eyes of Washington this offensive threatens the rapidly soaring military spending of the United States. It's no secret that Mr Bush's tour is a propaganda move. Even so West European governments would like to see an easing of the administration's tough stand on arms limitation. The West European public is determined as never before to insist on peace and disarmament, but Washington demands unconditional support for its militaristic policy.

This lack of flexibility arouses understandable dissatisfaction among ordinary West Europeans. They have no wish to play the part of extras in a nuclear show scripted by Washington for the European theater, so the governments of the European NATO countries are under pressure, both from Washington and from their own people. This situation is unlikely to promote good relations between allies.

In both public statements and private conversations, West European officials say they would like to see a departure from the zero option, but the Reagan administration continues to insist. At the very beginning of his tour Vice President Bush read out President Reagan's open letter to the people of Europe. The letter shows no sign of Washington intending to display flexibility. It again suggests the Soviet Union dismantle all its medium-range missiles while the United States and other NATO countries retain all their medium-range nuclear weapons. Moreover, the administration intends to deploy an additional number of such weapons near the Far Eastern border of the Soviet Union. The open letter makes it clear the United States would like to deprive the Soviet Union of the right to counteract this new threat as well. The Reagan administration clings stubbornly to its unrealistic approach to medium-range nuclear arms. Obviously it's not much interested in finding a solution acceptable to both sides, and Western Europe seems increasingly aware of this.

Pressure on European Leaders

LD081158 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2243 GMT 7 Feb

[Text] Moscow, 8 Feb (TASS) -- All public statements made by U.S. Vice President Bush in Bonn were aimed at proving the "flexibility" of the American Administration in disarmament and its "sound approach" to the talks in Geneva. This "flexibility" is nothing but an attempt to achieve unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes, commenting on the American vice president's European tour. And as far as the Geneva talks are concerned, the American delegation was given quite definite instruction: "The zero option" and not another step forward. Instead of positive proposals, the public in the old world, which is worried, anxious and protesting, is given the same old pill, the "zero option."

Bush has been given another much less advertised task: to exert pressure on the West European leaders and to get them to agree fully to the implementation of plans for the deployment of Tomahawks and Pershings II's -- that is, to obtain their unconditional support for NATO's "dual decision" of sad renown which was adopted in 1979. The practical preparations for the introduction of the American "nuclear death" in Europe are in full swing.

The same subjects were discussed in The Hague as in Bonn. Let us remind you that so far the Netherlands has not officially said "yes" to the siting of Euromissiles, and the country's parliament voted twice against this. The propaganda nature of Bush's visit was so obvious that it in no way helped popularize these militarist plans.

The talks with Italian Prime Minister A. Fanfani and Foreign Minister Colombo primarily concerned Euromissiles, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA recalls. Commenting on the vice president's statements, the Italian LA STAMPA said that he did not say anything new over and above what he said a few days ago in Bonn, West Berlin, The Hague, Brussels and Geneva.

Publicizing Zero Option

LD051855 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1244 GMT 5 Feb 83

[From the "International Review" program presented by political observer Lev Novikov]

[Excerpt] Two highly placed representatives of the U.S. Administration, Vice President Bush and Secretary of State Shultz, were sent off this week by President Reagan on exceedingly sensitive missions -- George Bush to Europe and Shultz to Asia.

Let us begin with Bush's mission. It has not yet ended. Over 12 days he plans to visit seven European capitals. After visiting Bonn he went to West Berlin where he read Reagan's not-unknown message to the peoples of Europe, which constitutes propaganda for the same old Reagan zero option -- that is, unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union. [Bush shown speaking in Berlin.]

In the view of political observers it was not by chance that Bush chose West Berlin, since it stands at the meeting point of East and West. And in the view of the White House, that city appears to offer the most suitable place for the purpose of publicizing Washington's policies. But in reality it merely confirms what Bush said before he set off -- that the purpose of his mission is publicity. Even before he flew off across the ocean, he himself stressed that opinion when he said that he is taking no new proposals to Europe.

After Berlin Bush visited the Netherlands, the Atlantic bloc's headquarters in Brussels, and then he moved on to Geneva, but unfortunately still with the purpose of publicizing Reagan's zero option, which has been rejected not only by our country, but by broad opinion in Europe. [Bush shown seated at formal session in Geneva] And if no agreement is reached at the Geneva talks then at the end of this year the Americans will begin to deploy their Pershing-II and cruise missiles in Europe. Will this really ease the situation in Europe? Will it really strengthen security there, as Washington is attempting to prove?

Discrepency Between Words, Deeds

PM071257 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Sychev "International Commentary": "A Difficult Mission"]

[Text] U.S. Vice President G. Bush is about to leave for Western Europe. During his trip Bush intends to visit the FRG, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Britain, Switzerland, the Vatican and France. What is the aim of the visit by so senior a Washington figure? Remember that only a few weeks ago U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz followed nearly the same route.

Apparently the "Bush Trip," White House spokesmen told THE WASHINGTON POST, "is to counter the widening movement in Western Europe against nuclear weapons." Clearly, it is primarily an attempt to influence public opinion in Western Europe, which was immensely interested in the peace initiatives put forward by the socialist countries. The proposals contained in the speeches by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yu.V. Andropov and in the Warsaw Pact states' Political Declaration were widely acknowledged by West Europeans. There are ever more requent and resolute calls in Western Europe for the nondeployment of U.S. Eurostrategic missiles.

The intensification of antiwar, anti-American sentiment is seen on the banks of the Potomac as an intolerable phenomenon which is extremely dangerous for U.S. militarist plans, dangerous because the ruling circles of Washington's NATO partners cannot avoid taking that sentiment into account.

Western news media are diligently dropping hints to the White House concerning this fact and are "whispering" about how best to behave in the new conditions and about what people expect to hear from the visitor to West Europe. These utterances are more or less summed up by THE WASHINGTON POST: "The vice president ought to heed this deep concern and state unequivocally that the United States is oriented solely toward a strategy of deterrence, that is does not believe in limited nuclear war, that it is not seeking nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union, and that it is striving most earnestly for stability and dialogue, not for confrontation with the other power."

Washington has been increasingly vocal recently about U.S. diplomacy's "love of peace," about the U.S. "peacemaking role" in Europe. And some Western observers were quick to call G. Bush's trip a "substantial shift" in the White House's approach to the problems of war and peace. Washington's practical steps indicate, however, that the United States is sticking to its old course. Washington has no intention at all of abandoning its desire to smash the established nuclear parity and achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union at all costs. The "hardliners" are demanding a considerable increase in the Pentagon budget for fiscal 1984. Appropriations for strategic nuclear weapons of mass destruction will be increased to $30 billion, which is $8 billion more than in the current fiscal year.

Bush's trip is taking place within the framework of a propaganda campaign in support of the U.S. approach to arms control and the modernization of nuclear forces in Western Europe (although Washington prefers to call it "public diplomacy"), for which $65 million have been set aside. "Without any doubt," THE FINANCIAL TIMES writes, "G. Bush's main aim on the question of missiles in Europe is to pen the NATO countries within the framework of the policy elaborated 3 years ago, which envisages starting the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Western Europe at the end of this year."

So we can see the discrepancy between U.S. words and diplomatic gestures and U.S. practical actions. It is clear in this connection that the need to publicize White House policy vis-a-vis nuclear weapons makes Bush's mission very difficult.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTATORS HIT REAGAN'S OPEN LETTER

Falin on Zero Option

PM071519 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer V. Falin: "'Zero' Alchemy"]

[Text] The worse the commodity the more lurid the packaging, as a rule. Otherwise it will not sell. When it comes to hoodwinking the consumer and painting black white the Americans are unsurpassed. Particularly in politics.

The peoples are seriously concerned about the danger of war. They are demanding an end to the arms race, a resumption of sensible and buisnesslike dialogue between states and a return to the path of cooperation. These demands express the firm belief common to people of the most diverse political and social views and sympathies that a nuclear catastrophe cannot be allowed to happen. Therefore one cannot permit either a small or big war involving "limited" or unlimited use of nuclear weapons, for that would mean the destruction of all life and the end of civilization.

Washington officials are not so deaf that they cannot hear the mass indignation at the militarist programs and bellicose doctrines of R. Reagan's administration. U.S. diplomats certainly have reason to report daily to the White House that West Europe is seething with protests and that attempts to make it a launchpad for first-strike weapons and, therefore, the first target in the event of a conflict are fraught with serious complications for the United States. Perhaps the most serious in NATO's history.

What is the current U.S. leader's response to the calls to reason, to respect the interests of the peoples and not to behave as if human history begins and ends with R. Reagan? So far the most Washington has done has been to seek garish labels and verbal bows, for example, for the notorious "zero option" that allegedly offers a way out of the artificial deadlock created by the West.

The U.S. propagandists have spent so much time fussing over this "zero." And officials have been so busy making a mammoth issue out of it. But it has all ended as it ought to have ended: You can't get something out of nothing. Political alchemy has failed to gild a venture in which the desire to achieve one-sided superiority at all costs has been patently obvious.

The bombast about "mutual Soviet-U.S. abandonment of an entire class of weapons," about a "total ban on the most destabilizing systems" and about the "sincerity" of the U.S. President's intention to aim for a "just accord" stems from a cunning desire to lay traps for restless souls, cast aspersions on the other side's position and prove that it was the Soviet Union, not the United States, which caused the detente crisis. On closer examination, however, it turns out that the "zero option" has never borne any relation to the principle of reciprocity. Certainly it would eliminate an entire class of weapons, but solely and exclusively Soviet weapons, so as to open up in the Warsaw Pact's defense system not so much a "window" as a veritable gate of vulnerability. The purpose of this option, as a well-known West German weekly wrote 25 years ago on a similar occasion, is to destroy the shoots of the possible by talking about the impossible.

And no special effort is made to conceal this fact on the other side of the Atlantic. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State R. Burt candidly explained to senators that the administration had consented to talks with the USSR on medium-range nuclear weapons only because otherwise it would not have been able to get the NATO allies to agree to the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles on their territory. Thus the "zero option" was supposed to create a semblance of a discussion of the problem. They brought a Trojan horse to Geneva to smash the West European peoples' resistance to Atlantic militarism's rampage.

No, this is worse than zero. The authors and inspirers of the "zero option" need a minus result. They need to undermine poeple's faith in the possibility of equal and fruitful talks between states and reinforce the Reagan administration's main postulate -- strength rules the world.

Sooner or later falsehoods are exposed. The "zero option" is no exception. You are scarcely likely to find a respectable figure in the West today who would speak honestly in its defense, to whom the utter groundlessness and even provocative nature of Washington's demand would not be obvious. Only a hopelessly blinkered person could be unaware that the "zero option" is not a plan for strengthening international peace but an integral part of the concepts designed to give the United States a chance of victory in a nuclear war, and that what Washington has in mind is not safeguarding security in Europe but lining up [vyravnivaniye] dangers for it. It does not need an island of detente. West Europe must endorse the doctrine of "direct confrontation" and by dint of Atlantic solidarity pay its share of the costs.

Former U.S. Secretary of State E. Muskie called this a "secret program to skirt disarmament while America arms in the vain hope of achieving superiority." Both Americans and Europeans are sometimes even more pointed about White House policy, but Muskie conveyed the essence of it pretty accurately.

In recent weeks dissatisfaction with the U.S. leadership's stubborn reluctance to come to terms with the peoples' will for peace has been expressed increasingly vigorously and loudly in Europe. Representatives of a number of allied governments have started talking about the need for a "compromise" and about the desirability of a "more flexible" U.S. approach. NATO's "dual decision" has started to come apart at the seams. People are puzzled: "It is incomprehensible why the United States should object to a result at the (Geneva) talks which suits the Europeans." Is it really because, as Washington keeps repeating, it is motivated solely by the desire to protect West Europe from the dangers threatening it?

The Europeans' "ingratitude" has caused considerable irritation on the other side of the Atlantic. Some 12-18 months ago the head of the administration would undoubtedly have bellowed about the ideological sloth and political spinelessness of the allies he had inherited who were totally incapable of forgetting the taste of detente. But the chance to browbeat was missed. The pressure reached a critical level and steam had to be released immediately from the boiler.

"Indeed, there is no denying the inventiveness of the President and his advisers. That is where the habit of publicity tells. They took the same old 'zero option,' set it out on paper in the form of an open letter from R. Reagan to the people of Europe and put it in the pocket of Vice President Bush with instructions to read it when he came to West Berlin in the course of his foreign tour. Britain's BBC commented on the letter thus: 'Reagan's new proposal contains nothing new, it only stresses once again Reagan's adherence to his "zero option,"' America's NBC television laconically: 'All this is propaganda.' White House Spokesman Allin admitted the same thing, in effect, when he noted that his chief 'has not made a new proposal.'

"So they changed the wrapping, repeated the rubbish about the 'Soviet military threat,' promised to 'defend Europe at all costs' (to the last European), and in the end proposed that an agreement 'removing American and Soviet ground-based intermediate-range weapons from the face of the earth' be signed by both sides. And a most expansive, theatrical gesture -- the choice of place and time for a meeting to satisfy the demands put forward by the United States is left up to the Soviet side. The President obviously thinks that the peasure of his company more than compensates for the threefold superiority in numbers of nuclear warheads which NATO would acquire if his agreement were implemented and will make it almost a pleasure for the USSR and the other socialist countries to see a qualitative disruption of the established parity in Europe in favor of the United States and its allies.

"The President ends his letter by expressing the conviction that 'this is what the peoples of Europe want.' An agreement which will bring the United States closer to the implementation of the imperial dream of being ruler or at least controller of their fate? Permit me to express equal confidence that the people of Europe and other continents do not want that. They do not seek guardians and do not need them. They want to decide their own affairs, at their own discretion and following their own mind. To this end they need security -- not by the grace of Washington, but genuine security based on good-neighborliness, and not on military confrontation.

"The Soviet leadership's attitude to the ideas put forward by R. Reagan is set forth in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's answers to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions. The open letter is assessed as confirmation of the U.S. reluctance to seek a mutually acceptable agreement with the Soviet Union.

"As for a meeting with the U.S. President, as Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted, for us, a summit meeting is not a matter of a political or propaganda game. A meeting aimed at finding mutually acceptable solutions to urgent problems and devleoping relations between the two countries would be useful to both the USSR and the United States, to Europe, and the whole world. But attempts to make a meeting conditional on Soviet consent to a deliberately unacceptable resolution of the problem of nuclear arms in Europe does not indicate a serious approach to this whole question on the part of the American leadership.

"Some people might think the White House chief is poorly informed or has little understanding of political matters. There are scarcely grounds for such suppositions. The President is not naive. The President is unscrupulous [nerazborchiv] about methods. The open letter is not a constructive step toward the Soviet Union. It is an anti-Soviet act typical of the present administration.

"The letter was dictated by the aim of encouraging the 'Atlanticists,' who are prepared to rush through fire and water to please the senior American partner, whatever the cost to Europe itself. As Western news agencies note, the letter is directly addressed -- to FRG Chancellor H. Kohl. He has difficulties. The keel of his election ship is scraping against underwater reefs. It is necessary to catch the incoming tide. The West German adherents of the 'zero option' are greatly in need of that tide.

"But the high tide is inevitably followed by the ebb. Should this be forgotten? People have to live. They do not want to be pawns in a game played out by anticommunists of various hues operating under the slogan: Do what we want, or else go to the devil. The peoples are waiting for their voice to be heard and their interests to be reckoned with at last."

Kondrashev Terms Letter 'Propaganda'

LD071301 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Washington seems to have changed its mind about the word propaganda. The word seems to have lost its nasty connotation as far as Washington is concerned, since it not longer speaks of Soviet or communist propaganda alone. Indeed, the administration has formed a propaganda group at Cabinet level, headed by William Clark. The group's funding will amount to $20 million this fiscal year and $55 million over the next. Here is a commentary from Stanislav Kondrashev of the Soviet evening daily IZVESTIYA.

In fact, the propaganda budget is bigger. Take for instance the tour of West Europe by the vice president, Bush. The visit was no doubt funded from sources other than the $20 million given to Mr Clark's propaganda group, but its aims clearly are propagandistic. Mr Bush read out the President's open letter to the people of Europe in West Berlin. Every open letter is a big political event, and one has every reason to believe that if such a letter is issued it should make political sense and not serve propaganda purposes alone.

But alas, the President's message makes no real political sense.

The West European, and indeed American, press was unanimous in its conclusions that the letter contains nothing new and that it's nothing but propaganda. Surprisingly the author of the letter himself admitted in an interview with the ST LOUIS POST DISPATCH that he had nothing new to say to Moscow. Ronald Reagan reiterated his zero option plan, advanced in November 1981, having described it this time as an agreement banning Soviet and American land-based medium-range nuclear arms from the face of the earth. He also proposed to the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuriy Andropov, that they should meet whenever and wherever the Soviet leader wanted to sign such an agreement.

The gesture and the offer to meet with the Soviet leader whenever and wherever the Soviet leader wants were calculated to impress the public, of course. The Soviet Union rejected the zero option plan a long time ago because it deprives the Soviet side of over 60 percent of its medium-range nuclear vehicles, while leaving intact nearly 1,000 NATO medium-range missiles and aircraft. Yes, and missiles too. One hundred and sixty two British and French medium-range missiles are trained on the Soviet Union. Actually the American President proposed to the Soviet leader that they meet so that Yuriy Andropov would sign an act on the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union, and he qualified this proposal by saying that he is prepared to meet Yuriy Andropov whenever and wherever the Soviet leader wants. This is what Mr Reagan's open letter to the people of Europe boils down to in practical terms. It is no wonder that the offer made by the American President was politely but firmly turned down.

REAGAN ROME LETTER ANOTHER 'BLOCK' IN GENEVA TALKS

LD071636 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Igor Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] On Sunday, the American television network NBC said that President Reagan had sent a message to the Italian Government via Vice President George Bush concerning the alleged involvement of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union in the 1981 attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II. Our observer Igor Dmitriyev makes this comment and this is what he writes:

The accuracy of this report can't be immediately verified. So far there have been neither confirmation nor denial from Washington. NBC's story says that Mr Reagan's initiative was prompted by a number of recent statements by people close to U.S. intelligence who don't take seriously the theory of a Bulgarian connection in the assassination attempt on the pope by a Turkish rightwing terrorist.

At the height of the anti-Bulgarian and anti-Soviet campaign late last year, a Western observer pointed out that the Reagan administration had more than just an onlooker's interest in the investigation. First of all, Washington was out to split the antiwar movement, and the church is very active in it. So by proving that those godless communists could stoop so low as conspire on the pontiff's life, the administration planned to undermine the movement by driving a wedge into it, sowing discord and separating believers from peace champions in the socialist community. A weakened antiwar movement is seen in Washington as little or no threat at all. And last but not least, was the hope of diverting the attention of European and the world public from the constructive Soviet peace proposals aimed at eliminating the war threat in Europe. Washington planners rubbed their hands with glee at the thought that the implication of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union in the terrorist attack on the life of the pope would pave the way for the deployment of American nuclear medium-range missiles in West Europe.

NBC has said that by his personal message to the Italian Government, President Reagan wants to show Italy that the United States wanted the investigation followed to the end, even if it caused an interruption of Soviet-American disarmament talks in Geneva. In other words, this could be construed as an instruction from Washington which way the investigation should proceed in. According to the American network, the President's message had been passed via Vice President George Bush. His European tour is aimed at making the American allies agree to the deployment of medium-range missiles on their territory. The administration wants no progress in Geneva: all it wants is to deploy the missiles.

Even if NBC's story on Sunday is nothing but a groundless scoop, the network is right on the mark in principle. The administration is so much against a fair deal in Geneva that it might stop at nothing to block it.

'FOREIGN POLICY LINE' OF U.S., ALLIES ASSESSED

LD061447 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 6 TASS -- The foreign policy line of the United States and other NATO countries is characterised at the present stage by departure from the policy of detente, by the unrestricted arms race, and by attempts to upset at any cost the rough equilibruium of military-strategic forces between the Warsaw Treaty and the North Atlantic alliance, writes IZVESTIYA.

The newspaper points out that the foreign policy course of the United States and some of its allies is shaped under the influence of those bourgeois circles which seek to preserve their domination with the help of force, militarisation of the economy and all spheres of social life. One cannot fail to see that the arms race is for them the main source of profits, whereas the stake on military superiority is the chief means for implementing adventurous designs in the international arena.

The newspaper's international review points out that at a time when U.S. Vice President George Bush is making a tour of European capitals, the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of medium-range strategic armaments are resumed in Geneva. Europeans justly expected that the U.S. vice president would make his contribution to reaching accords on such important international issues. However, the newspaper states, George Bush told newsmen prior to his trip to Europe that he was taking along no new offers and that in the course of "close consultation" with the allies he intended to reiterate the U.S. position, which, as is known, is reduced to attempts to upset the approximate balance of forces and force the Soviet Union into unilateral disarmament. "The very fact of the organisation of the U.S. vice president's tour of the European capitals," in the opinion of the newspaper THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "reflects extreme nervosity of the Reagan administration and its concern over the exclusively broad movement in Western Europe in protest against NATO's sinister plans."

WASHINGTON 'TRYING TO SAVE' 'WEAKENING POSITION'

LD032359 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1944 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] If it were necessary to hold a conference today in Washington of the top leaders who deal with U.S. foreign policy problems, it would turn out that this was impossible, for the simple reason that all persons who are mainly responsible for the country's course have, as it were on a command, left Washington and dispersed in all directions. Well, the President himself is now traveling to various states, speaking to large audiences, and trying to convince his listeners that his administration is not in such bad shape and the foreign pursued by Washington is, allegedly, completely successful.

Vice President George Bush, as you know, is travelling around West European countries putting pressure on American partners in the North Atlantic bloc. [Shot of Bush arriving in Europe] Secretary of State George Shultz is making a tour of the Far East. [Word indistinct] he visited Japan, and now he is in China. Finally, the head of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations, Mrs Kirkpatrick, has left on an urgent trip to Latin American countries.

What is it, a simple coincidence, a chance concurrence of circumstances? Not at all. Analysis of the recent statements by high-ranking representatives of the Reagan administration convinces one that the diplomatic initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries formulated in a number of statements by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Andropov, and in the Warsaw Pact Political Declaration, have taken official Washington by surprise. Judging by everything, after a certain period of embarrassment in Washington, the urgent decision was made to implement a campaign of massive pressure on the public opinion of various regions of the world to prevent numerous political complications. But, since the diplomatic portfolios of the high-ranking Washington envoys do not contain anything except the long-compromised and unrealistic proposals, the stakes are evidently being put, on the one hand, on the eloquence of those who are charged with propagandizing U.S. foreign policy, and on the other hand, on completely unambiguous threats at the peoples and countries of various regions.

One can hardly believe, for instance, that it is a simple coincidence that the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to the People's Republic of China took place at the same time as major joint U.S.-South Korean maneuvers, Team Spirit-83, in Beijing they were quite clearly aware of the anti-Chinese twist to these actions by Washington. The United States, writes the PEOPLE'S DAILY, not only refuses to withdraw its troops from South Korea but, under the pretext of holding joint maneuvers, dispatches to that region new troops -- Navy and Air Force -- and also modern weapons. The Chinese people resolutely oppose these brazen actions.

The same sabre-rattling accompanies the visit of Kirkpatrick to Latin America. On the border with Nicaragua a show of force is being carried out in the form of U.S. military maneuvers. [Shots of Marines marching in full battle gear]

And so, either through persuasion or through pressure, Washington is now trying to save its obviously weakening positions.

SENATORS SUBMIT RESOLUTION ON SPACE WEAPONS BAN

LD042100 Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 4 TASS -- Senators Edward Kennedy (Democrat, Massachusetts), and Charles Mathias (Republican, Maryland) submitted to the Senate a resolution urging the Reagan administration to conclude agreements with the Soviet Union on banning nuclear tests and development of "space" weapon. The senators pointed to the need an urgent resumption of talks with the USSR with the aim of signing an agreement prohibiting the testing, production and deployment of anti-satellite and other weapon systems capable of hitting targets on the ground from outer space.

The document contains the demand to the administration to submit immediately for ratification to the upper chamber of the U.S. Congress a treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests.

According to the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, over a third of members of the Senate are co-authors of the resolution. Earlier a similar resolution was submitted for consideration of the House of Representatives.

ZHUKOV SEES 'MANIPULATION' OF U.S. PRESS

PM041511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "'Informed Sources' and 'Freedom of the Press'"]

[Text] The leaders of the U.S. psychological warfare services are becoming increasingly alarmed: The more activity they get involved in, the less effective it becomes. Europeans, Asians, Africans and Latin Americans are ceasing to take seriously the fabrications about the "Soviet threat," about the United States and NATO being compelled to intensify the arms race for the sake of disarmament, and so on.

There has been a series of reorganizations. The leaders of the services regularly change. The budgets of the establishments waging psychological war are increasing at a staggering speed, assuming massive, unheard of proportions. Many millions of dollars are being splashed out, but the machine which was created to fool people is struck, its wheels spinning!

Recently the Americans who organize psychological warfare against the USSR, against the other socialist countries, against the communist parties, against the antiwar movements and against all progressive forces, were given another cause for alarm: Even the famous "average American," who only recently was swallowing without a murmur all the fabrications concocted by Washington's "mass information services," or rather, mass misinformation media, is ceasing to believe them.

"It is clear from recent public opinion polls that the public does not have absolute (!) confidence in the press." This cautious, yet very meaningful admission, made recently by David Shaw, prominent journalist on the influential Californian paper THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, who has published an extensive study of the U.S. Administration's methods of influencing the mass news media, is highly symptomatic.

He reports that when they discovered that confidence in what the press has to say was diminishing dangerously, the organizations whose job it is to monitor the effectiveness of press influence on public opinion -- the society of newspaper editors and the national news council -- conducted a "wide-ranging investigation." The national news council was the first to report. Its conclusions were very disquieting for the psychological warfare chiefs: The technique of indoctrinating the U.S. public, which appears to have been working well for decades, is now misfiring.

The aforementioned services do everything in accordance with a long-established pattern. Whether it be a question of the elaboration of a new strategy, preparation for some far-reaching political act nullifying former pledges, or the supply of some new means of mass destruction, the plan is the same:

First stage: For the time being everything remains strictly secret. No one must know anything until the plan has been worked out in the minutest detail and until preparations are complete.

Second stage: When the time comes to start indoctrinating the "average American," who has to swallow another bitter pill, one of those famous secret information "leaks" is arranged. Suddenly -- "no one knows how" -- a journalist acting as an agent obtains and publishes a highly secret document, citing an anonymous "informed source." If the impression made by this sensational report proves too strong, the authorities deny it in order to reassure people. But then they arrange another information "leak" in the same vein -- and so on until people gradually become accustomed again to "thinking the unthinkable."

Third stage: Now it remains for the President, the secretary of state or the defense secretary to make an official statement about what the reports received as a result of the information "leak" actually meant.

Suddenly it turned out that this system was losing "credibility" even among Americans who only recently believed the fairy tale about the freedom and independence of their press and thought that U.S. journalists, concerned only to obtain interesting information at any price, were risking their lives infiltrating the White House or the Pentagon and spiriting away and taking to their editors top secret documents.

"Now that the public has become highly interested in how the press fulfills its function," the foreword to the national news council's account of its investigation says, "the one question that is asked most often and very loudly is: How can I be sure that published information is accurate when I don't even know where the information came from?"

In an attempt to justify itself to readers asking this tricky question, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES says that in such cases the "guarantee of anonymity (of the source) is sometimes an essential condition which the journalist must meet to get the information he seeks." "More statements attributed to anonymous sources are published every day in Washington," the paper points out, "than in any other place.... For a whole series of reasons journalists covering events in the White House, the State Department, the Pentagon and, most important of all, the intelligence organs rely mainly on sources whose names are not made public either in the newspapers or on the radio or television."

The paper gives a specific example of the way these organs manipulate the press. The CIA wanted public opinion to be prepared for the U.S. intensification of its armed interference in Nicaragua. So a sensational article appeared in NEWSWEEK saying that "the United States is waging a secret war whose aim is to overthrow the left wing government in that country. The article, which made extensive use of intelligence materials, cited "anonymous sources" 36 (!) times.

The next day, as is the custom, THE NEW YORK TIMES published a report that Reagan administration spokesmen and "national security apparatus" personnel had rejected the NEWSWEEK piece, but then reported that "the United States is carrying out minor secret military operations" in Nicaragua.

The aim was achieved: Whereas the NEWSWEEK piece made readers sit up and even angered many of them, THE NEW YORK TIMES report reassured them -- there is no "secret war," and as for the "secret military operations," which are actually being conducted, they are "minor," so there is nothing to worry about....

NEWSWEEK's Washington bureau chief Mel Elfin (incidentally, a former employee of the U.S. Air Force intelligence service) said in this connection that "in the spectral world of behind-the-scenes ghosts, anonymity is normal."

Curious details of the intricate machinery for indoctrinating the public using secret information "leaks" supplied to journalists by "anonymous sources" were provided by Paul Janensch, editor of the provincial COURIER and TIMES [as published] newspaper published in Louisville, who previously worked in Washington. "Press representatives in Washington and the administration collaborate in this game, and the public suffers as a result," he said. The editor went on to say that he was "extremely surprised to see how willingly journalists agree not to supply the names of the authors of cited material." He said that "the journalists and administration spokesmen have established a code of rules" whereby the departments supplying materials prohibit reporters from naming the source.

The term "controlled news" is consequently now commonly used in Washington journalistic circles -- according to THE LOS ANGELES TIMES it "first became fashionable" back in the days when John Kennedy was U.S. President and had "warm relations with representatives of the press."

He and the people close to him "arranged relations with journalists extremely skillfully and manipulated them."

Since then the technique of using news "leaks" deliberately arranged by the administration has been considerably refined and has become widespread. In only a matter of weeks THE LOS ANGELES TIMES has published, according to its employee David Shaw, more than 20 articles containing information obtained from "a diplomat," "many critics (?)," "Pentagon representatives," "a government official," "official administration spokesmen," "a source in the White House," "a source in the labor union movement," "sources(!)" and "informed sources."

Then the effect of the "verbal inflation" became known. "Readers are confused," David Shaw wrote in an article under the eloquent heading "Who Said It?" "They do not know whether they can believe the information or whose and what interests this source of information is protecting."

A nearly 10,000-strong army of journalists is working in Washington guided by the prompting of nameless "sources." Competition among them is desperate: Most of them are endeavoring to outdo their colleagues and present the reader with the most sensational material, eschewing no "source." They are not bothered whether the material will subsequently be confirmed or refuted.

So the situation is that U.S. readers and television viewers, for whose benefit, you would think, the vast amount of information was being provided, are the most ill-informed in the world. No wonder the U.S. public is increasingly expressing disenchantment with its mass news media. The legend of the freedom of the U.S. press and of its so-called objectivity and speed in covering events all over the world is being debunked.

The Reagan administration is currently restructuring its propaganda machine again. As "officials" (no names again!) reported on 20 January, an "interdepartmental group" is being set up for this purpose, headed by Presidential National Security Adviser W. Clark. It will comprise senior Washington administration figures.

"This interdepartmental group, which has been in the process of being set up for some months," THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "arose as a result of the sharply anti-Soviet speech which President Reagan made on 8 June to members of the British Parliament. He proposed a 'crusade for freedom' which would be a vigorous challenge to the Soviet Union and would assist the 'development of democracy'" the world over.

The management is, so to speak, sparing no expense. Expenditure on this "new program" is to reach $65 million in 1984. Consistently the stream of slander and misinformation inspired by anonymous "sources" will increase several times over. The question is: Do the leaders of the U.S. Administration not realize that these feverish efforts only help to expose the organizers of ill-intentioned U.S. propaganda, which they try in vain to pass off as objective information from the "freest and most democratic press in the world"?

TASS ANALYST ON 'PROPAGANDA' OF 'REAGANOMICS'

LD071933 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

Official Washington has of late been making optimistic predictions for the U.S. economy. The Reagan administration launched a propaganda campaign, trying to dampen the acute criticism of bankrupt "Reaganomics". Contrary to the facts, the masterminds of this campaign exert themselves to "prove" that the "invigoration of the economy" allegedly set in the United States. President Reagan himself made an attempt a few days ago to present seasonal fluctuations in employment characteristic of winter time as the evidence of the decrease of unemployment in January by 600 thousand.

The television company NBC had to correct the President by making a reference to the statistical service of the Congress. It pointed out that the actual number of the officially registered unemployed far from lessening the January, increased surpassing the 12 million mark and reaching 12.5 million.

The present publicity campaign by the Reagan administration in the USA is explained by the striving to get a "lever" for pressure on the Congress so as to rush through the Congress, at any cost, the draft budget for the 1984 financial year, envisaging an increase of military allocations by 35 billion dollars with the simultaneous sharp cutting of the spending for social needs. Official Washington seeks to suppress the criticism of the unrestrained arms build-up, which according to the influential FOREIGN POLICY magazine, overtaxed the U.S. economy. The Reagan administration shows by all its actions that it is not going to abandon the huge military programme of 1,600 billion dollars for five years, which threatens to shake the U.S. economy. In these conditions it is not surprising that justifiable concern about the pernicious consequences of such a course are expressed in the United States not only by the public, but also in the Congress, even among the ruling Republican Party, and in the business circles. But the Washington rulers who, according to president of the United States Conference of Mayors, C. Young, lost touch with reality, refuse to face these obvious truths, and continue stubbornly clutching at the dangerous militaristic course.

No propaganda ruses of Washington, however, can conceal the fact that "Reaganomics" plunged the country into the most acute economic crisis after the Second World War and that its future is not at all as rosy as the White House tries to present it. In the opinion of the Bank of America, the biggest bank of the USA, the real economic growth in 1983, even if it takes place, will be clearly not enough to overcome the recession. And according to the "touched up" prediction which was just made by Chairman of the Presidential Council of Economic Advisers Martin Feldstein, the deficit of the budget in the 1984 financial year will at best be only 20 billion dollars less than the deficit of 208 billion dollars evisaged by the government. And according to THE NEW YORK TIMES,these huge deficits will choke the economic development. In common opinion the unemployment rate will remain very high. For instance, two of every five unemployed will be unable to get back their jobs for the simple reason that they will be liquidated already.

So the propaganda gimmicks of the Reagan Administration have nothing in common with real facts.

U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET, PEACE 'COALITION' VIEWED

LD050905 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] As the President's budget message to Congress indicates, the administration plans to increase the United States' military outlay in the 1984 fiscal year by another 14 percent, or by $3 billion. As a result, the Pentagon's budget will come close to $240 billion. As far as the authorized military spending of the United States in 1984 is concerned, it is set $280 billion. More on this from our observer, Vladimir Kazanskiy:

United States military spending was an unbearably heavy burden for the nation even before the present Republican President took office. Throughout the postwar period, the United States has steadily increased allocations for military purposes and launched new arms races. Yet under President Reagan the United States' military efforts have undergone a qualitatively new change. Distorted facts and outright lies are used to convince the Americans that the United States is allegedly behind the Soviet Union in armaments. It is under the cover of propaganda about a Soviet threat, which in reality does not exist, that the administration launched its program for the country's strategic rearmament. Yet it is not catching up with the Soviet Union that the United States is after. The real aim of its program is to destroy the parity between the Soviet Union and the United States and to secure the United States all round superiority in the military field.

Since President Reagan came to the White House, emphasis has been placed on preparations for a nuclear war, on drafting the first nuclear strike and protracted nuclear war doctrine. Meanwhile, any sensible person can see that for the Americans such a course is no less dangerous than it is for other nations. As a result of the activity of the Republican administration the United States and the entire world are far less secure than they were prior to 20 January 1981. The White House has done everything to increase international tension and aggravate military confrontation. This course of events compels the Soviet Government to take retaliatory measures to maintain its defenses and do it on a scale dictated by the situation -- that is, by the openly aggressive preparations of the Reagan administration.

According to reports in the United States, many Americans already understand that the statements about an external military threat are a fraud and if the threat of a nuclear conflict in which there will be neither victors nor vanquished has grounds, it is because of the bellicose policy of the White House. That is why more and more people in the United States demonstrate against war, for freezing nuclear arsenals.

Among those who join this campaign of ordinary people for their right to live are representatives of various groups of American society: the National Conference of American Catholic Bishops, youth, women's, trade union organizations, the coalition for peace with jobs that for one united major public organizations including the committee of American friends, at the service of society -- that is, the Quakers [sentence as heard]. At its national conference in Atlanta, Goergia, last month, the coalition firmly rejected the assertions of the White House that the Americans need Reagan's program for rearming America since there allegedly exists a Soviet military threat. Yet it is well known that you can fool some of the people all of the time, you can fool all of the people some of the time but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

Meanwhile, this is exactly what the present Republican administration tries to do by imposing on the American people a course for an unbridled arms buildup.

INFLUENCE OF HAWKS IN U.S. ADMINISTRATION NOTED

LD050021 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1456 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, 4 Feb (TASS) — Political "hawks" are the rage in Washington. Figures whose outlook and practical activity have something in common with the habits of the militant representatives of the feathered world are familiar with this concept. This is written about by doctor of historical sciences Richard Ovinnikov in an article entitled "Beware: 'Hawks!'" published in edition No 2 of the journal KOMMUNIST. But it is not just about individual members of the species. Many U.S. political organizations and institutions, he stresses, today affirm that it was by them, with the aid of their ideas and representatives that the foundation was laid and the most dangerous turn was made on the international arena from detente to the new aggravation of tension.

Such a sharp turn in politics also required its creed and the justification, in the eyes of the American and world public, for the reckless course leading to aggravation of confrontation, to nuclear catastrophe. On the propaganda field and political arena, from the very beginning, one American organization stood out, seemingly embodying the utmost degree of adventurism. Its very name was invented as an alarm signal -- "Committee on the Present Danger." This organization to date has sent to Reagan's administration 32 of its 182 members, in order to achieve a firm position against the Soviet Union.

In the present U.S. Administration, R. Ovinnikov writes, members of the "Committee on the Present Danger" certainly do not possess the monopoly initiative in generating tidal waves of the "cold war."

All of them there are birds of a feather. But even so the members of the committee stand out because of their outright extremist views. Their "personal" contribution to the administration's policies amounts, in particular, to an urge to burn all the bridges of cooperation between East and West and to nudge the United States into a state of "permanent war" with the Soviet Union.

The coming of power to the Reagan administration was marked by the triumph of the idea of banking on strength not only in the foreign policy field but also in an area where one would have thought the practical pragmatic interests of American business would prevail. This is the U.S. foreign economic relations with the socialist countries, primarily the USSR. Research carried out in the United States in the field of East-West trade has quite undisguisedly stated the calculations made by American imperialism to use, in particular the Soviet Union's imports of American technology to undermine its economy.

What has become the heart of the Reagan administration's "new military strategy" is the line toward "direct confrontation" between the United States and the USSR on both the global and the regional scale.

Having made a nest for themselves at the pinnacle of official power in Washington and set a course toward total confrontation with the world of socialism, the "hawks" of antidetente and militarism are jealously watching to see that U.S. policies become more aggressive day by day. From the spring of 1981, as their efforts built up, the members of the "Committee on the Present Danger" have mounted a general offensive from inside and outside the administration to push through their adventurist plans. It was a result of their initiatives, in particular, that the insufficiently "reliable" Secretary of State Alexander Haig was forced to quit his post.

In a nuclear age, Ovinnikov writes, the present situation, inwhich there are circles in power in the United States whose unrestrained adventurism one would imagine ought to make it unthinkable that they could even reach the helm of state in the leading capitalist power, is not only a dangerous one but also goes against nature.

XINHUA REPORTS ON PRC VISIT BY SECRETARY SHULTZ

LD071344 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Beijing February 7 TASS -- Upon completion of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to China, the XINHUA agency issued a statement saying among other things:

The four-day visit of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has contributed in a measure to the development of American-Chinese relations, as it created an opportunity for an exhaustive exchange of opinion and understanding of the positions and views of the sides. But the divergences of opinion on Taiwan and other bilateral problems remain as before. The stands of the sides on a number of international issues, as the report says, are close, but China is critical about the conduct on the USA in a number of other cases.

According to the available information, the Chinese leaders, the report says, told Shultz that China considers its relations with the USA to be important. They noted, however, that to improve these relations it is necessary to remove obstacles in that way, chiefly resolve the problem of Taiwan, especially of American arms supplies to Taiwan. According to reports from well-informed sources, the XINHUA agency continues, Shultz objected to that that [as received] American arms supplies to Taiwan are done in accordance with the American law on new relations between the USA and Taiwan. The Chinese side pointed out in its answer that this law is a serious obstacle in the American-Chinese relations and therefore must be cancelled.

Then the Chinese leaders pointed out that the American policy of discrimination and restrictions on economic, trade, cultural and technological exchanges with China also inflicts damage upon the American-Chinese relations.

The Chinese side believes that the biased stand of the USA in the Middle East and its support for Israel encourages Israel to a further pursuance of its policy of aggression and expansion. China is also critical about the U.S. support of the unlawful occupation of Namibia by the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa. China objects against a linkage between the granting of independence to Namibia and withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, in the belief that these are problems of absolutely different kinds.

The Chinese officials again stressed at the talks with Shultz that China pursues an independent foreign policy, declaring above all against hegemonism, for preserving peace all over the world ant strengthening unity and cooperation with all Third-World countries.

PRC PAPERS SCORE PRACTICE OF KILLING BABY GIRLS

LD032148 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zoun]

[Text] In recent days, the Chinese press has been raising the alarm about a vestige of feudalism which has become quite widespread in the country. As is known, measures are in force in China to limit the birth rate. Now, in accordance with official decrees, a family should have no more than one child; in exceptional circumstances, two children. Administrative and financial-economic punishments are meted out to those who break these rules. Well, in connection with this, as the weekly BEIJING ZHOUBAO in particular reports, the phenomenon of parents killing new-born baby girls has become widespread. In Chinese families, particularly in rural areas, they aim to gain helpers in the form of boys. For this reason, and fearing punishment, they try to rid themselves of the baby girls who are born. The Chinese press condemns these vestiges of feudalism and calls for an active struggle against them.

SHULTZ ASIAN TOUR TO BOOST 'MILITARY TRIANGLE'

S. Korea Link in Strategy

LD071621 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 7 Feb 83

["Working Up Tensions" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- News analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

A provocative visit to the area of the demilitarised zone and the surveying of the territory of the Korean People's Democratic Republic from a distance of a mortar shot, the inspection of the units of U.S. Armed Forces stationed in South Korea and of the South Korean Army units engaged in the largest joint military exercises "Team Spirit-83", assurances of U.S. loyalty to its commitment to protect the Seoul regime from the "threat from the north", the discussion of issues pertaining to South Korea's further military buildup, and U.S. aid to it for this purpose -- such are the milestones of the recent visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Seoul. The visit comes as a link in the chain of efforts lately made by the U.S. Administration within the framework of its global strategy of confrontation with the forces of peace and progress. The visit is also in a close connection with Washington's attempts to envigorate the USA -- Japan--South Korea military triangle being set up by it in the Far East.

Early last summer U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger said in an interview with the South Korean newspaper HANGUK ILBO that relations between South Korea, the United States and Japan played a major role in countering the Soviet Union in the Asian and Pacific regions. He stressed that certain steps should be made to develop military cooperation between them. Somewhat later in a report for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, George Shultz noted that Japan and South Korea supplemented each other militarily and played a role of a stronghold against the Soviet Union and communism in the Far East.

Those statements have lately been confirmed by the policy and practical steps not only of the United States which is the architect of the "triangle," but also by those of Japan's ruling circles and the Seoul regime.

On Washington's instructions the prime minister of Japan is going to turn his country into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" with nuclear weapons "on board", clearly forgetting the fact that so far there are no such a thing as an unsinkable aircraft carrier.

Further he is going to blockade the straits used as international shipping routes without asking for either the views or the consent of the states using them for navigation. The United States has turned South Korea into a nuclear cellar and jumping-off ground for aggression. In [word indistinct] coincidence precisely during George Shultz' visit to South Korea an unprecedentedly large and provocative demonstration of military strength got under way there not far from the territory of the Korean People's Democratic Republic. And although Tokyo was not taking part in it formally, there is little doubt that it is one of the states behind that event which imperils peace in the region.

The visits of George Shultz to Seoul and Tokyo, Yasuhiro Nakasone's recent visits to Seoul and Washington, followed by very bellicose statements, the present provocative military maneuvers held in the Korean peninsula -- all this is evidence of stepped-up military activity of the "triangle". It has already brought about a sharp aggravation of tensions in the Far East and caused understandable concern among Asian nations.

To Consolidate Strategic Positions

LD081031 Moscow TASS in English 0826 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo February 8 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Logachev reports:

"I believe that my visit to South Korea will contribute to the lessening of tension in the Korean peninsula." This statement was made by the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at a dinner held by the U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Richard Walker on the occasion of Shultz's visit to the south of the Korean peninsula. However, the activities of the head of the U.S. foreign policy department during his stay in South Korea showed that the statement had noting to do with the true objectives of U.S. policy vis-a-vis Korea, which actually consists in a further escalation of tension in that region.

According to the Japanese press, Shultz promised the Seoul puppets of Washington to expand the deliveries of U.S. armaments and military equipment for the South Korean Army and to "help" create their own military industry.

After that the Washington emissary went by helicopter to the area of the demilitarised zone, which divides the northern and southern parts of the Korean peninsula, to inspect U.S. and South Korean troops concentrated there. This provocative trip was accompanied by Shultz's equally provocative assurances about the firm resolve of the U.S. to protect the Seoul regime from "the threat from the north."

The results of the visit of the U.S. secretary of state to South Korea show that the Washington administration is going to further consolidate its strategic positions in the Far East at the expense of the security of the Korean people. The statement made by Shultz at the Seoul airport today before leaving for Hong Kong is proof to that. He underlined that the U.S. and the South Korean regime intended to continue their close cooperation in the military sphere and to hold joint exercised "Team Spirit" and others. The exercises are planned and carries out with absolute neglect for the protests of the peace-loving forces of the states of that region which are working for the consolidation of peace and security.

U.S. Supplies to S. Korea

LD071720 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo February 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Logachev reports:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, now in Seoul, has begun talks with the leaders of the South Korean dictatorial regime. They are discussing, according to the Japense press, questions of strengthening military cooperation between the USA and South Korea.

The newspaper MAINICHI says that his yesterday's talks with the foreign minister of South Korea, Yi Pom-sok centered on the question of increasing the American supplies of military equipment to Seoul as well as expanding the manufacture of such equipment in South Korea under licences from overseas corporations. Local observers point out in this connection that in this way Washington would like "to prop up" the Seoul regime which has turned the South of Korea into the Pentagon's bridgehead in the Far East. About 40,000 U.S. servicemen, equipped with modern weapons including nuclear ones, are stationed in South Korea.

George Shultz's Far Eastern tour is taking place against a background of growing tension on the Korean peninsula as a result of big American-South Korean exerciese code-named "Team Spirit-83". The development of the situation in the region indicates that the United States is actively trying to knock together a military-political grouping that could be used by Washington as an instrument in carrying out is aggressive plans in the Asian-Pacific region.

The United States, South Korea and Japan are to become the core of this alliance, according to the Pentagon's plans. It is not fortuitous that during his tour, George Shultz visited Tokyo where he demanded of the Japanese Government that it further increase Japan's military role in the Far East.

Shultz's mission is directed first of all against the peoples of the region who are anxious to gain freedom from the diktat of imperialism and domination by American and Japanese monopolies. This is clearly seen by the developing states of Asia which are seriously concerned over the United States' aggressive designs.

PRAVDA ON BEGINNING OF U.S.-S. KOREAN EXERCISE

LD080736 Moscow TASS in English 0712 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 8 TASS -- An American-South Korean military exercise, code-named Team Spirit-83, the largest in recent years, has started in the territory of South Korea and adjoining waters of the Pacific Ocean, Boris Barakhta writes in PRAVDA today.

Team Spirit-83, being conducted over a vast area, involves more than 70,000 American and about 120,000 South Korean officers and men. Ranking officers from the Japanese self-defence forces are present as observers.

The Team Spirit-83 exercises affect in a most serious way the security interests of Pacific nations. This is also an attempt to consolidate the actually established axis Washington-Tokyo-Seoul.

According to foreign news agencies, mastered during the exercises in conditions resembling those of actual combat are operations planned for "contingency". Blocking of sea straits, "defence" of sea lanes, etc, are being planned. The newspaper ASAHI points out in this connection that Washington actually regards South Korea and Japan as an "advanced base" in its aggressive strategy, as obedient tools in kindling a cold war in the Far East.

It is no accident, the commentator points out, that the preparations and beginning of the Team Spirit-83 exercise coincided with the visits to South Korea by Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. According to the newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN, in both cases the talks focused on military affairs.

Peace-loving peoples in the Far Eastern countries voice justified concern over the Washington administration's aggressive designs and its attempts to heighten tension in that region.

Japan as 'Rear Base'

PM041151 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[Vinogradov "Commentary": "Muscle Flexing"]

[Text] Large-scale maneuvers pretentiously code-named "Team Spirit" start in the northwest Pacific today. Taking part in them will be more than 100,000 South Korean servicemen and a total of 60,000 officers and men of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. In addition, a massive quantity of combat hardware -- surface ships, submarines, airplanes, helicopters, tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery and missile launchers -- will be in action in these maneuvers, which will take place on land, at sea and in the air.

According to the scenario of the "Team Spirit-83" maneuvers, which was devised by Pentagon generals, the whole of this 160,000-man force will spend 2 and 1/2 months repulsing a "theat from the north." The nature of the operations which it is planned to rehearse in the course of this militarist demonstration indicates, however,

that the "Team Spirit" maneuvers will be offensive rather than defensive. The South Korean and U.S. troops will practice landings and parachute drops, capturing strongpoints, inflicting air and sea strikes, and carrying out seek-and-destroy antisubmarine operations.

The concentration of armed forces in one area in order to make such an impressive show of strength will, there can be no doubt, only help to heighten tension in the Far East, especially as a third, unadvertised, participant in these bipartite manuevers is Japan. The U.S. Marines taking part in "Team Spirit-83" are after all, being transferred from bases on Okinawa. U.S. airplanes will be flying from military airfields on Japanese islands and the ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet currently massed off the South Korean coast sailed from Japanese ports. Japan has in other words been cast in the role of the "rear base" of the militarist show now getting underway since. Fearing a wave of protests, Tokyo has not yet been able to venture to openly take part in joint manuevers with the South Korean military, as, incidentally, Washington is stubbornly insisting. Judging however, from the results of the recent visits to Seoul and across the ocean by Japanese Prime Minister Y. Nakasone, Japan's ruling circles will accede to this demand in the near future.

Washington has long been trying to embroil Japan in its military-strategic plans in the Far East, drawing it, in particular into military cooperation with South Korea. The "Team Spirit-83" maneuvers now getting underway are, in fact a step in this direction. It would, therefore, be more correct to call them not "Team Spirit" but "Militarist Spirit-83" since the purpose of these military games is to forge in the Far East a militarist triangle comprising Washington, Tokyo and Seoul.

Japanese Expanded Role

LD051851 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1033 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo, 5 Feb (TASS) -- The Japanese Armed Forces will give combat support to ships of the U.S. Navy in the event of "emergency conditions around Japan." Prime Minister Y. Nakasone stated today in the Diet. He asserted that this would constitute only "an act of self-defense" and would not contradict the Japanese Constitution which, as is known, forbids the country to maintain armed forces and to go to war to settle international disputes.

Nakasone once again confirmed the readiness of his government to block strategically important straits in the Far East "in the event of emergency conditions." At the same time he noted that Tokyo does not exclude the possibility of consulting with the Seoul regime with regard to operations in Korea's international strait.

The prime minister's statements coincided with the speech at a press conference in Washington by F. Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense for policy, who pointed out in particular the "necessity" of the participation of the Japanese and South Korean Navies in the operations of the U.S. 7th Fleet in the northwestern part of the Pacific Ocean.

As ASAHI reports today in connection with this, the Japanese Foreign Ministry has already hastened to admit the possibility of trilateral military maneuvers being held in the Far East. In the opinion of local observers, this is effectively a step forward along the path of creating a strategic Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle.

Nakasone's latest utterances, ASAHI notes, increase the danger that "Japan will be drawn into wars not directly connected with it," whereas previously, the paper points out, the Japanese Government spoke of extending the operational sphere of the country's Armed Forces "only" 1,000 miles from its shores. Now they can be used outside this region, provided only that Tokyo and Washington decide that the United States' naval forces need Japanese aid. "There exists a real danger that the joint combat operations of the two countries will spread as far as the Near East," AKAHATA writes with alarm.

PRC Criticizes Exercises

LD081346 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] China has charged the U.S. with attempts to complicate the situation on the Korean peninsula by holding joint military exercises with South Korea. A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Peking denounced this new show of force. The statement said that American military presence in South Korea was a threat to peace.

NAKASONE ADDRESSES 'REVANCHISTS' ON KURILES

LD071437 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0810 GMT 7 Feb 83

[By correspondent Sergey Logachev]

[Text] Tokyo, 7 February (TASS) -- Revanchism and territorial desire for other people's land have been elevated by Japan's ruling circles to the level of national policy. The functions held today on the initiative of the Japanese Government in a number of cities of the country on the occasion of the so-called "northern territories' day" are evidence of this. Similar gatherings are being held for the third year running, on 7 February by the advocates of a review of the borders established after the World War II, accompanied by anti-Soviet sallies by nationalist and rightwing organizations operating with the approval of the authorities.

The most "representative" meeting "for the return of the 'northern territories'" -- as the Japanese revanchists have christened the islands of the southern part of the Kurile chain, belonging to the USSR -- took place in Tokyo. The tone at it was set by Y. Nakasone, the prime minister, who once again stated Japan's aspirations to these lands. Having made the further development of Japanese-Soviet relations conditional upon resolving the nonexistent "territorial problem," the prime minister tried to present the case as if "the main threat to the security of Japan came from the north."

Officially, Tokyo constantly uses the well-worn thesis of the "Soviet threat" to whip up a "territorial" hue and cry. This is done in order to intimidate the public and convince it of the "legitimate" nature of attempts to annex the Soviet islands to Japan. By the efforts of the Japanese "hawks," the "juridical basis"-- the law adopted by parliament last year making provision for the allocation of funds from the state budget for conducting a campaign of provocation -- underpins revanchist policy.

The actions of the Japanese authorities are directed at a well-defined aim -- that of distracting the people's attention from the government's ever more energetic steps to increase militaristic preparations and to step up its plans to turn Japan into a militarily powerful state capable of dictating its will to the other countries of Asia.

Such a course not only undermines the basis of Japan's relations with the Soviet Union and Asian states and harms stability in the Far East, but also runs fundamentally counter to the national interests of the Japanese people, who want to live in peace and friendship with their neighbors.

USSR'S KAPITSA HOLDS TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

BK040823 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Kaula Lumpur, Feb 4 (AFP) -- Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister for Eastern and Far Eastern Affairs Mikhail Kapitsa today held **wide-ranging talks with** Malaysian officials here today on world developments and regional affairs, including Indochina and Moscow's rapproachement talks with Beijing. After the talks, which lasted nearly two hours, Mr Kapitsa told newsmen that he had a "very good conversation with my Malaysian colleagues." "We particularly touched on the situation in Southeast Asia, as I have just assumed charge of our relations with countries in the East and Far Eastern region," he said.

Mr Kapitsa, who flew in here from Jakarta yesterday on a four-day visit to Malaysia, said the purpose of his tour was to acquaint himself with the situation in the region and establish personal contacts with leaders in the area. His "familarization tour" will also take him to Bangkok and Singapore next week. Asked whether he had briefed Malaysian officials on Moscow's rapproachement talks with **Beijing**, he said "we talked about everything." Mr Kapitsa is an expert on Chinese affairs, having been attached to the Soviet embassy in Chungking, southwestern China during World War II. The Malaysian team at the talks was headed by Tan Sri Zakaria Alt, Foreign Ministry secretary general, and incluced K.T. Tharmaratnam ambassador in Moscow.

SRV'S TRONG TAN VISITS USSR AIR FORCE UNIT

PM041059 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit to Air Force Unit"]

[Text] Colonel General Trong Tan, chief of the Vietnamese People's Army and General Staff, who is on an official visit to the USSR on the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, visited an Air Force unit at Kubinka on 26 January. He was acquainted with its combat equipment and material base and with the airmen's life and conditions.

The guest was accompanied by Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, first deputy commander in chief of air forces.

Ends Visit

PM071609 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] Colonel General Le Trong Tan, chief of the Vietnamese People's Army General Staff, who has been on an official visit to the Soviet Union, left Moscow for home on 28 January.

The Vietnamese guest was seen off at the airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR First deputy defense minister, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, USSR deputy defense minister, as well as Army General P.I. Ivashutin, Marshal of Aviation G.P. Skorikov, Admiral V.N. Chernavin, Col Gen N.A. Zotov, Lieutenant General G.A. Borisov and others.

Among those seeing the guest off were Nguyen Van Guang, SRV charge d'affaires in the Soviet Union, and Major General Le Thanh, SRV army, naval and air attache at the SRV Embassy in the USSR.

IZVESTIYA SCORES U.S. 'ANTI-KAMPUCHEAN CAMPAIGN'

LD071814 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- The attempts made by Washington and its partners in the anti-Kampuchean campaign to breathe life into the so-called "coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea", composed of hangmen and traitors of the Khmer people, and existing exclusively due to the handouts of its partons, are doomed to failure. An equally inglorious failure awaits another campaign directed against the interests of the Kampuchean people, against peace and stability in Indochina and aimed at torpedoing the 17th conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned (countries).

Intrigues of international reaction around the so-called "Kampuchean problems". [sentence as received] The enemies of People's Kampuchea, the paper writes, advertise the "coalition government's as some "effective power" allegedly expressing the interests of the Kampucheans. Such (?wild) and cynical speculations are called upon to camoflage the gross interference in the affairs of a sovereign country. The [words indistinct], psychological warfare -- the policy of holding back the improvement of the situation in South East Asia.

Washington and othe reactionary forces, the newspaper writes, has lately changed over to the tactics of (?strong) pressure on the developing countries, embarked on a large-scale promotion campaign for the self-appointed "government: to create a semblance of international support for (?some) so-called representation of the "coalition" at the forum in New Delhi. This is being done with a view to the splitting the Nonaligned Movement, discrediting India as one of its recognized leaders and the organizer and host of the forthcoming conference.

"It is to be regretted, IZVESTIYA emphasizes, "that the ruling circles of some of the ASEAN countries have joined in [word indistinct] ungainly machinations. Contrary to their own interests of other developing countries they act as accomplices of the destructive policy of imperialism with respect to the Nonaligned Movement and exponents of an alien policy in South East Asia."

COMMENTARY ON SOVIET-INDONESIAN RELATIONS

OW080417 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1230 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Station observer (Uzbiz) commentary]

[Text] The Soviet Union was the only major power that extended diplomatic support to Indonesia after it won independence in 1945. At that time, the Indonesian people were striving to build the country and at the same time to resist armed aggression first by Britain and later by the Netherlands.

Our country was the first to oppose the Dutch colonialists' actions at the United Nations and it was on the basis of a proposal put forward by the Soviet delegation that the UN Security Council discussed the question of curbing the British and Dutch armed intervention against Indonesia. All this was very helpful in recognizing the sovereignty of the Indonesian Republic and forcing the colonialists to abandon their schemes. The establishment of Soviet-Indonesian relations in 1950 promoted the bilateral relations further. In the 1950's and early 1960's, the two countries cooperated extensively in the economic, trade, science and cultural fields, and this cooperation had helped shape Indonesia's national economy and consolidate its position in the family of nations. In 1956 and 1960, Soviet-Indonesian economic and technical cooperation agreements were signed. These agreements provided for the Soviet Union to help Indonesia build a number of industrial and national economic projects such as the (Ci-Dian-Hong) metallurgical plant, the (Chi-La-Cha-Tong-Wo) sulfuric acid plant and the (?Teluk Panggul) atomic reactor in Java. The Soviet Union also helped Indonesia in building hydroelectric power stations, textile and other enterprises.

Soviet experts went to Indonesia to help install equipment in projects under construction and trained a number of Indonesians in the Soviet Union for projects under construction in Indonesia. In addition, the Soviet Union also turned over to the Indonesian side gratis all technical documents of Soviet-aid projects.

The Soviet assistance, to a great extent, ensured Indonesian victories in the struggle for liberation and for Irian Jaya. The Dutch colonialists formerly exercised illegal control over West Irian. In 1960, the Soviet Union warned the Netherlands that the presence of its Armed Forces in West Irian would cause dangerous consequence. The Soviet Union also supported Indonesia's providing of arms to the Indonesian Armed Forces there. All this to a certain extent finally forced the colonialists to hand over to Indonesia that piece of territory which they originally wanted to occupy.

Following the tragedy of 30 September 1965 when important political changes took place in Indonesia, the contacts between the Soviet Union and Indonesia were sharply reduced, but good prospects for renewing the relations between the two countries appeared again. In 1974, the Soviet Union and Indonesia signed a trade agreement and a new agreement for economic and technical cooperation. By 1978, the trade volume between the two countries had increased by more than four fold, and the trade volume in 1981 was 50 percent higher than in the year before.

While providing Indonesia with textile, oxygen manufacturing, power and other equipment, the Soviet Union has also purchased rubber, lacquer, palm oil, spices and other commodities from Indonesia. Meanwhile, the Soviet experts have also taken part in the survey and designing of hydroelectric power station in central Java. The recent Soviet trade exhibition held in Jakarta showed that there were great possibilities for the development of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of power, mining, production of building materials and the extraction and smelting of nonferrous metals.

In the summer of last year, a delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR visited Indonesia, where Indonesian President Suharto and Vice President Malik met the Soviet deputies. The Soviet deputies also held talks with Indonesian Assembly Chairman Mr Daryatmo. Just as Mr Daryatmo said, the visit of the delegation of the Soviet supreme legislative organ to Indonesia was conducive to strengthening parliamentary contacts and all these contacts will serve to further develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Indonesian peoples.

WOERNER 'PLAYING DUMB' ON CHEMICAL WEAPON POLICY

PM071239 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS political observer R. Serebrennikov "Rejoinder": "Woerner's 'Discoveries'"]

[Text] The laurels won by the renowned liar and incorrigible dreamer Baron Muenchhausen obviously give FRG Defense Minister Manfred Woerner no peace. In a recent interview with DER SPIEGEL magazine, the head of the Bonn Defense Department disseminates the most improbable anti-Soviet fabrications.

Judge for yourselves. Woerner, it turns out, has discovered in the Warsaw Pact states' Prague declaration..." a whole series of examples" which, he says, allegedly show the "fundamental contradiction" between the Soviet Union's statements and its actions.

If you're going to lie, then make it a big lie -- that is the formula by which Woerner acts in, grossly distorting the goals of the USSR's foreign policy. For instance, he claims that "the Soviet Union is deploying a large quantity of toxins in Europe (?1).

How can Defense Minister Woerner fail to be aware who is really forcing the chemical arms race and turning West Europe into a depot for U.S. toxin, into a real Pentagon "gas chamber"?

It is worth asking whether Woerner reads the magazine to which he gave his interview with its fantastic anti-Soviet stories. It was DER SPIEGEL that recently published secret information concerning the deployment of enormous stocks of U.S chemcial weapons on FRG territory. A quantity of U.S. supertoxic nerve gases sufficient to kill all the inhabitants of the European Continent is stored in the underground bunkers at the U.S base near Fischbach alone.

And further on, deliberately distorting the facts, Woerner alleges without a twinge of conscience that "the West insists on the total renunciation of chemical weapons' but is allegedly "encountering resistance from the Soviet Union."

But is this not sheer lies again!

The Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries consistently advocate outlawing chemical weapons and ridding Europe of toxins. Very recently the socialist states expressed readiness to study, with other interested countries, all possible ways and means leading to the solution of this task and embarking on appropriate negotiations.

Does Woerner really know nothing about these proposals, or is the simply playing dumb, as they say?

FRG LEADERS' SUPPORT FOR ZERO OPTION ANALYZED

LD032014 Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 3 Feb 83

[By TASS political news analyst Vladirmir Serov]

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, during U.S Vice President George Bush's official visit to the Federal Republic, made a number of statements on American-West German relations and on Bonn's stance on problems of limiting nuclear armaments, including medium-range nuclear systems.

A legitimate question arises following thorough analysis of his statements whether the West German Chancellor and his government have their own policy in the field of nuclear arms limitation.

It seems that Bonn has no such policy of its own; since all above-mentioned problems of vital importance to West Germany it obediently follows in Washington's wake.

In fact, Kohl's statements are full of general, declarative phrases about "striving for dialogue," "genuine detente" and a "shift at the Geneva talks," about the desire to achieve "greater security with less number of weapons." All these declarations, however, serve the election aims and are designed to make the electors believe that the present CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] and the FDP [Free Democratic Party] government is really concerned about how to ensure an "honest and sensible agreement" in Geneva.

Meanwhile, concrete remarks by the Bonn chancellor on questions of limiting nuclear armaments show that he echoes pratically on all points his overseas guest. This is related, in particular, to Washington's obviously unrealistic stand at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe -- the pseudo-zero option, backed unconditionally by Helmut Kohl and totally unacceptable to the Soviet Union.

His call on the Soviet Union to send a "signal of readiness for compromise" sounds rather strange in this connection. As if there was no proposal of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee about a radical reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security. As if the Soviet Union did not make an important step forward, at a time when Washington perseveres in its unwillingness to reach a mutually acceptable accord, which is evidenced from remarks by U.S. Vice President George Bush during his Europe tour.

It is difficult not to have the impression that the so-called "zero option" is needed to Washington and the present West German Government only as a screen covering their line towards indefinite procrastination of the Geneva talks and deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles to be started from the year's end in Western Europe, primarily in West Germany. Such is the "present" that is being prepared by Washington and Bonn for the West German people.

The danger of this "present" is clear to every sober-minded person: American nuclear missiles, first of all Pershing-2, intended for stationing on West German territory, represent first-strike weapons which would sharply destabilise the military situation in the continent and cannot but draw a devastating retaliatory strike on West Germany in case of a nuclear conflict.

Leaders of the West German right-wing conservative bloc, obviously trying to oblige Washington, do not seem to take into proper account consequences of such policy of theirs. One should not forget that the leader of Free Democrats, West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher for long supported unconditionally Reagan's "zero option." It is known what deplorable results this brought to his party. Christian Democrats, led by Helmut Kohl, will hardly extract anything better from that "zero" either. It is a very ungrateful task to play up to Washington's dangerous militarist policy.

SPD CONGRESS STANCE ON ARMS ISSUES NOTED

PM041519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At Social Democratic Party of Germany Congress"]

[Text] Dortmund, 21 Jan -- A Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] congress was held here today devoted to the SPD's preparation for the early parliamentary elections scheduled for 6 March.

The delegates unanimously approved the nomination of H.-J. Vogel, member of the SPD Board Presidium, as the SPD candidate for the post of FRG chancellor.

Delivering a report to the congress H.-J. Vogel assessed highly his meeting in Moscow with Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressing that it provided an opportunity to set out to the Soviet leadership the SPD's stand on questions of security and the halting of the arms race. This meeting promoted the interests of the consolidation of peace. The New Soviet peace proposals and the proposals of the Warsaw Pact states, the speaker said, are of a constructive nature. "We demand," he said, "that the U.S. side respond to this with its own constructive proposals."

H.-J. Vogel stated that if he is elected FRG Federal Chancellor his government will make every effort to prevent the deployment of the new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on West German territory.

He pointed to the need to prevent the further twisting of the spiral of the nuclear missile arms race, noting the highly dangerous nature of Reagan administration representatives' assertions concerning the possibility of waging a "limited" nuclear war and winning such a war. The SPD welcomes any step toward achieving accords on limiting and reducing nuclear arms, the speaker said.

The election program adopted by the congress expresses serious concern in connection with the further aggravation of the international situation and the intensifying arms race, fraught with a grave threat to all mankind.

The SPD considers the conservation of peace to be the supreme goal of its activity in the sphere of international relations, the document says.

The SPD leadership states in its program its adherence to NATO and the United States. At the same time it stresses that now more than ever it is essential that the FRG defend its own interests. It is essential that a compromise solution be reached at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. The SPD rejects the so-called "automatism principle" on the issue of deploying the new U.S. nuclear missiles in the FRG and other West European countries.

Delivering the concluding speech at the congress, SPD Chairman W. Bandt urged the party members to make every effort to ensure that the SPD again becomes the ruling party as a result of the elections.

FRG POLITICIANS CITED ON GENEVA DISARMAMENT TALKS

Genscher Remarks Attacked

LD042351 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 4 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Kaverznev]

[Text] FRG Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher left today by air for London to exchange opinions on nuclear arms with Margaret Thatcher. Just the day before Genscher made what was in the opinion of many observers a not very proper statement. He said that the Soviet Union has occupied a recalcitrant position at Geneva and this caused him -- Genscher -- disappointment. We remind you that the talks in Geneva are conducted behind closed doors, that is what both delegations agreed upon.

In general, if one examines the total of the latest statements by Kohl and Genscher one can draw the conclusion that the ruling Bonn coalition has no independent view on problems of arms and disarmament now. It adheres to Washingotn's position, essentially not deviating from it in any way.

Brandt Favors Negotiations

LD061214 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Bonn, February 6 TASS-- Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] Willy Brandt in an interview with Hessen Radio has favoured the solution of the disarmament problem through negotiations. "It is better to conduct additional talks on disarmament," he said, "than to carry out additional armament."

Willy Brandt stressed in this connection that if the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe do not produce a result by the autumn this year, the West should continue them, rather than start automatically implementation of NATO's nuclear missile decisions.

FRG'S STRAUSS CRITICIZED FOR EUROMISSILE STANCE

PM071511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[V. Mikhaylov "Rejoinder": "The 'Missile Carrier' From Munich"]

[Text] The supporters of the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles are having a hard time of it in the FRG. The majority of the population is opposed to the Pentagon and NATO's scheme. Resistance is growing. And the parliamentary elections are not a million miles off. How do you act as a peacemaker for the benefit of the electorate and at the same time remain loyal to Washington?

F.-J. Strauss, leader of the right wing in the conservative Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU) bloc, tried to banish at a stroke the schizophrenic condition of the U.S. missile supporters. In a series of interviews he declared that it was quite impossible to achieve an agreement at the Geneva talks that would prevent the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe. The USSR, Strauss thought aloud, will not accept Reagan's "zero option": it is "nonsensical," "unrealistic" and "unattainable," and the Soviet proposals are not suitable as far as the United States is concerned.

What lies behind this show of "objectivity?" The crux of it is the tremendous popularity of the Soviet proposals. Their simplicity and cogency dissolve all prejudice: If the USSR is demanding for its defense in Europe not one missile more than Britain and France possess, then how can one talk of "upgrading" the West's armaments? Given this situation the Munich strategist thought: Why don't I put the Soviet and U.S. proposals together and call both lots "acceptable?" Perhaps people will not look too closely and believe me. Then the way will be clear for the U.S. missiles.

Strauss follows this phony logic in his further arguments. He said that the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles is an "absolute necessity," and if the West European states dare to withhold their consent NATO will suffer an "irremediable loss," so, get the missiles over here at all costs!

The frank admission by a CDU/CSU leader that he would like to give up the quest for an agreement as a bad job and was prepared to give the U.S. missiles an immediate green light put the "Christians" in a tizzy. How were they now to persuade the electorate that the CDU/CSU, rather than supporting "arms-upgrading," was in favor of talks to avoid it. Emergency steps had to be taken. A joint statement by the federal secretaries of the CDU and CSU was published that "modified" the Munich "missile carrier's" revelations.

Well, diplomatic finesse never was F.-J. Strauss' strong suit. He has always been good at dropping bombshells, leaving others to clear up after him.

THATCHER, KOHL REACH 'FULL UNANIMITY' IN TALKS

LD042002 Moscow TASS in English 1739 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] London February 4 TASS -- Talks have been held today, in the country residence of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher near London, between the head of the British Government and FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. As has been learnt in the local diplomatic circles, the talks centered on problems in connection with nuclear weapons in Europe.

Representatives of both delegations said that in discussing those issues full unanimity had been reached. Both M. Thatcher and Helmut Kohl declared in favour of Reagan's so-called "zero option", which provides for unilateral disarmament of the USSR and is absolutely unacceptable for talks on a limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe.

Thus, both heads of government have again declared for the implementation of the NATO's decision to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, including in Britain and the FRG. They disregarded the mass protests by the participants in the anti-war movement in Britain and in the Federal Republic against the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. Meanwhile, it is well-known that the deployment of those mass destruction weapons sharply destabilises the military situation on the European Continent.

Neither Thatcher nor Kohl wish to reckon with that fact. But an overwhelming majority of the population in the FRG and Britain disagree with their heads of government, as the peoples do not wish that their countries be turned into launching pads for new nuclear missiles carrying death and destruction.

CHEYSSON 'CONTRADICTS HIMSELF' ON NUCLEAR POLICY

LD050450 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2010 GMT 4 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Aleksandr Kaverznev]

[Text] Let me add a statement by French External Relations Minister Cheysson to what I said earlier today about the Western European debates over the problem of reducing nuclear armaments. Cheysson said: We welcome Andropov's proposal for an agreed 25 percent reduction in strategic arsenals. We also believe that a more substantial reduction is possible. Cheysson agrees that at present there undoubtedly exists a global balance of forces in the sphere of nuclear deterrence. That is the positive part of the statement by the French minister.

However, he goes on to contradict himself, claiming on the one hand that French land-based nuclear missiles possess the same qualities as the American Pershing II missiles, which are to be deployed on the territory of the FRG towards the end of the year, and saying on the other hand, that the American nuclear missile arsenal should be considered separately from the French and British ones. This judgment cannot be appraised as anything other than an attempt to justify the plans to deploy new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

BRUTENTS CONTINUES VISIT TO LEBANON, SYRIA

Meets With Lebanese CP Officials

PM041307 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Beirut, 2 Feb -- The CPSU delegation headed by K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, held talks with the Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] leadership here yesterday.

The sides discussed the situation in the Near East and Lebanon, exchanged opinions on a number of international problems and examined questions on further strengthening interparty ties. The LCP leadership referred to the party's activity in rallying all the country's progressive forces and mobilizing them to rebuff the Israeli intervention. The need was stressed for the speedy, complete withdrawal of Israeli interventionist troops from all of Lebanon's territory, since without the fulfillment of that condition it is impossible to restore the country's independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The LCP leadership expressed gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet people for their selfless assistance and support for Lebanese Communists and the country's progressive forces in the struggle against the Israeli aggression.

Affirms USSR Support for Syria

LD061755 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1708 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Beirut, 6 Feb (KUNA) -- "Our military support for Syria is extremely serious and the consequences of this will be evident at a later time," Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, declared in an interview with the Lebanese weekly MONDAY MORNING. He added: "The Israeli preparations against Syria can only arouse the USSR's concern."

Asked what the Kremlin would do in case of an Israeli attack on Syria, Brutents said that the USSR's military support for Syria is serious.

Syria has obtained new Soviet missiles which the United States and Israel say are (?SAM-5) long-range anti-aircraft missiles.

He said that the recent visit by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to Moscow as a member of the Arab League delegation could have good results with regard to future relations.

Commenting on Israeli war minister Sharon's call on the USSR to exchange words and not missiles with Israel, Brutents said: "This is not the first time General Sharon tried in his odd ways to play the so-called Soviet card." He pointed out that Moscow would welcome the establishment of normal relations with Israel when Tel Aviv abandons its expansionist aggressive policy toward the Arabs. "Our condition for the establishment of relations with Israel," he said, "is that it withdraw its forces from the occupied Arab territory including Lebanon."

Talks With Syrian Ba'th Leader

LD071314 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0805 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Damascus, 7 February (TASS) -- 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant general secretary of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, has received a CPSU delegation led by K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, who is on a visit here at the invitation of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party leadership.

During their conversation they exchanged views on both the international situation, and the situation in the Near East as well as on the friendly relations between the CPSU and the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party. On behalf of the Syrian leadership, Al-Ahmar highly appraised the principled, firm Soviet support for the struggle of the Syrian and other Arab people against the aggressive course of the United States and Israel.

The Soviet side emphasized the consistent nature of the Soviet Union's policy, aimed at consolidating friendship and cooperation with Syria and other Arab states and at providing unwavering support for the struggle of the Arab peoples, including the Palestinian people, against the U.S.-Israeli attempts to impose unequal, defeatist deals modeled after Camp David, which are incompatible with the principles of peace, sovereignty and national independence. The CPSU delegation resolutely condemned the malicious campaign of provocation imperialist circles have unleased against Syria.

SOVIET COLONEL DESCRIBES RECENT VISIT TO SYRIA

LD041336 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] A Soviet delegation recently visited Syria within the framework of regular relations between the political bodies of the Soviet Army and Navy and the political guidance bodies of the Syrian Armed Forces. Here are the impressions of Colonel Fedor Kazanchuk, a member of the Soviet delegation, on his visit to Syria.

Fedor Kazanchuk writes: The visit to Syria made by a number of officials working in the field of political guidance in the Soviet Army was a return visit. A delegation of political guidance officers in the Syrian Armed Forces, led by Major 'Abdallah (Jurf), visited the Soviet Union last September. The main purpose of the visit was to exchange experiences in political and educational work in the Armed Forces of the two friendly countries. These visits are considered to be part of the cooperation between the armies of the two countries established on the firm basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation tion between the Soviet Union and Syria.

Fedor Kazanchuk summed up his impression of the many meetings with Syrian officers and men and said that their discussions dealt with the situation in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon, and ways of consolidating Syria's defense power with regard to the intensification of Israel's threats of aggression.

This is understandable. For nearly 10 years Syrian soldiers maintained military positions in the Golan Heights. Since 1976 they have fufilled their important and difficult task in Lebanon within the Arab defense force at the request of the Arab League. When Israel waged aggression on Lebanon in June last year, encouraged by its strategic ally the United States, one of its aims was to attempt to weaken the Syrian Army and force Syria to accept an annexation of the Golan Heights. Confronting the aggressor not only requires the intensive combat training of the Syrian Armed Forces, but also the high morale and political characteristics of Syrian soldiers must be cultivated.

During its visit the Soviet delegation had an opportunity to familiarize itself with the various aspects of the activities of the commander, the Army general staff and the political guidance bodies in educating members of the Syrian Armed Forces. Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas spoke to the delegation about certain aspects of this question. He pointed out the extreme importance of the educational program for members of the forces and the participation of all officers of the Syrian Armed Forces in this program. When the Soviet delegation inspected Syrian military units, it was convinced that the system of moral and political training is functioning meticulously in the Syrian Armed Forces.

Syrian friends told members of the Soviet delegation that the question of facing the sabotage centers that have launched psychological war against Syria and its Armed Forces is considered one of the vital aspects of the educational program. Tel Aviv and its American protectors tried during the aggression against Lebanon to sow seeds of doubt about the power and effectiveness of the weapons and military equipment with which the Syrian Army is equipped.

At the 20th Syrian trade union congress, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said that this was an unfounded lie that did not stand the test in past battles and will not stand the test in future battles. President Hafiz al-Asad cited the following example: Much was said about the Israeli Merkava tank; it was claimed to be the best in the world. But in battle the T-72 tank proved to be the best. President Al-Asad said that Israeli tanks were unable to compete with the T-72 wherever it confronted the Israelis.

Syrian friends pointed out that the Israelis have admitted huge losses in their tanks and armored carriers. As a result the Israeli Army issued a special order stating that tanks and armored carriers should maintain a distance of no less than 4 km from the T-72's.

The Syrian friends frequently pointed out that the rich experience of the Soviet Armed Forces is very important to the Syrian people and their Armed Forces, who are steadfastly and courageously defending the freedom and independence of their country and are foiling the aggressive plans of U.S. imperialism and Zionist Israel. The Syrian people and their Armed Forces rely on the comprehensive support and backing of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. This was frequently asserted by the Syrian military -- from the ordinary private to the highest commanders.

COMMENTARY ASSERTS SYRIA'S RIGHT TO DEFENSE

LD080009 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Commentary by Colonel Fedor Nikolayev: "Who Is Threatening Whom?"]

[Text] Arab and world public opionion is following with great anxiety the new phase of tension in the Middle East, which is being greatly intensified by Israel. With U.S. agreement, the Israelis have openly massed huge forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley region and are quite openly preparing for aggression against Syria. At the same time the campaign of threats and intimidation against Syria is being intensified. What is the reason for the outcry raised by the Israeli military junta, the outcry which caused artificial concern in the Washington administration?

They (?stress) in Tel Aviv, and Washington supports this, that the reason for massing Israeli troops against Syria is the steps taken by Syria to consolidate its air defense. Israeli and American information media try to portray these measures by Syria as a threat to Israel. They also allege that these measures change the balance of power in Syria's favor.

But what is the reality in fact? If we take into consideration the lying propaganda of the Zionists and imperialists, and if we objectively analyze what is taking place, the true picture emerges as follows: The Syrian leadership's measures to consolidate the country's defense power, including air defense, are lawful and legal and have been taken to ensure effective and active defense against any air attack and also to protect the peaceful life of the Syrian people. The lessons of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon demand that additional measures be taken to consolidate Syria's defense power and modernize some types of weapons. These measures are extremely necessary for Syria in light of the fact that Israeli has occupied and annexed a part of Syrian territory. Another reason is Israel's increasing hostility toward Syria. In fact, the Israeli military junta's threats about the so-called punishing of Syria and [word indistinct] its campaign on Damascus, have not ceased since last autumn.

In view of these circumstances, the following reasonable question arises: Why do the Israeli leaders think they are allowed to do what they please in accumulating huge arsenals of offensive weapons, including the vacuum bombs dropped on an inhabited house in Beirut on 6 August, and embarking on direct aggression on neighboring Arab countries and annexing their territory? Why is it that Syria has no right -- as they see it in Tel Aviv and Washington -- to take effective measures to ensure its defense power in the face of aggression?

As for Israel's allegation that Syria's measures to consolidate its defense power are a threat to Israel, we find that everything has been turned upside-down here. Syria is a country defending itself and is facing Israeli aggression; it is not the Syrian forces that are at the threshold of Tel Aviv; it is the Israeli occupiers who are in the Lebanese village of Dayr al-Ash'ir, less than 25 km from the suburbs of Damascus. Who, I wonder, is threatening whom?

Israel's utterance about the so-called threat to Israel from Syria is a smokescreen to cover Israel's aggressive military preparations against Syria. It is not mere coincidence that Israel embarked on escalating a new round of hysteria against Syria following the U.S. Senate decision to allocate more than $2.5 billion to Israel as military and economic aid. Israel will not repay a large portion of this sum to the United States. Zionist organizations have allocated an additional $500 million for Israel. This specifically means that the United States and international Zionism are paying in full all the expenses and losses sustained by Israel during its aggression against Lebanon. But it is not simply a question of expenses, because this is at the same time encouraging the Israeli military junta to embark on fresh aggressive actions against Syria, which are aimed at intimidating Syria and making it give more concessions to the ambitions of Tel Aviv and Washington. This is the true essence of what is going on: the matter lies in this and not in the threat fabricated by Tel Aviv and Washington, stemming, as they allege, from the Syrian air defense systems.

IZVESTIYA: ARAB UNITY CAN AVERT 'SIXTH' MIDEAST WAR

PM051141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer V. Kudryavtsev under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "The Aggressor's Lebanese Trampoline"]

[Text] The current situation in the Near East can be called quiet if one compares it with the situation just a few weeks ago. But this is merely the lull before the storm inasmuch as the Near East remains extremely explosive. Indeed, the present situation is more like a pause between the successive outbursts of Israeli aggression. But this pause is of a specific nature. The fifth Arab-Israeli war did not bring the aggressors the desired results. And the current pause is being used by the aggressors both to force Lebanon's hand at the talks in Beirut and also to prepare the sixth Israeli aggression -- this time against Syria too.

It is not merely a point here of the facts attesting to such preparations. Under the cover of the Beirut talks and eulogization of the "Reagan plan" Israeli forces are massing on Lebanese territory, taking aim against the north of the country and its eastern regions in the Al-Biqa' Valley, where the Syrian troops belonging to the inter-Arab peacekeeping forces in Lebanon are located. In order to create an atmosphere of tension the Israeli aggressors, with the full support of the U.S. Administration, are accusing Syria of...strengthening the air defenses of Damascus and those areas of Al-Biqa' in which the inter-Arab forces are stationed at the request of the Lebanon's lawful authorities.

No propaganda tricks around the aggression being prepared against Syria can eradicate from the memory of the world's progressive public, and particularly the public of the Arab countries, the fact that the Israeli Zionists are trying to accomplish the idea of creating a "greater Israel" which was born along with the emergence of the State of Israel on the map of the Near East -- or, rather, somewhat earlier.

It should be recalled (and, surprising, there are people in the Arab world who still expect a "magic change" in Israel's external policy even though a Zionist regime exists in that country) that it follows clearly from the 1948 "declaration of independence" that the "doctrine of Zionism" is the dominating ideology and policy of Israel. But not only that. The then prime minister and one of the founders of the State of Israel, Ben-Gurion, said that Israel represents only the beginning of the struggle to create a Zionist state from the Nile to the Euphrates. The State of Israel, he added, "is not an end in itself but only the means to an end. And this end is Zionism." "Let everyone understand," Ben-Gurion continued, "that Israel was created by war and it will not be satisfied with the borders which it has achieved at present." Thus, east Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, the West Bank of the Jordan, the Golan Heights and now also a considerable section of Lebanon are, from the viewpoint of the "theory of Zionism," an integral part of the aggressive practice of that same Zionism. Let us note in passing that "greater Israel" is in its turn a part of the scheme of the new U.S. Central Command. Therefore, aside from its own predatory ambitions, contemporary Zionism is with its theory and practice, the tool of U.S. imperialism in the Near East and Southwest Asia. It is clear that this is not the limit, and all the more so inasmuch as the plans of U.S. imperialism are of a total nature. It should be noted that the conversion of areas "particularly important to U.S. vital interests" into the "Central," "Caribbean," "Pacific" and other U.S. Armed Forces Commands which are more overt in their intentions includes as a strike force one state or another dependent on the United States in the political, economic or military respects (Israel in the Near East, Japan in the Pacific, Zaire and the Republic of South Africa on the African Continent).

The terrorist methods which the Israeli Zionists employ against the peoples who have fallen or are falling victim to their aggression is by no means dictated only by passing circumstances -- which, incidentally, are for the most part fabricated by Israeli or American intelligence -- but stems from that same theory and practice of Zionism. Thus the opinion exists among the Israeli goon squads that if one person among a hundred killed in Lebanon proves to be a Palestinian fighter then this barbarous action is ... justified. Did not the terrorist Begin, the current prime minister of Israel, act in just the same manner 10 April 1948 when he himself and his accomplices slaughtered the entire population of the Arab village of Dayr Yasin? It is also well known that in West Beirut the young Zionist thugs mutilated children's right arms that they would never be able to take up arms and fight for their motherland's independence. How are they in any way better than the Bible's King Herod? And how was it possible to expect resolute condemnation of the carnage in West Beirut from the leadership clique of the United States when the entire history of that country rests upon the destruction and eviction from their lands (how can one fail to bring to mind the militarized Israeli settlements on primordially Arab lands!) of the indigenous inhabitants -- the Indians. It takes unbelieveable cynicism, as demonstrated by the builders of the St. Louis museum devoted to the conquest of the American west, to depict the Indians' destruction as giving them access to "civilization."

If we utilize conventionally the term "pause" between the fifth -- probably inevitable -- and the sixth Israeli-Arab wars, then we should acknowledge that the aggressors are not idly wasting time. They are undertaking intensified preparation to broaden the military operations in the north and east of Lebanon and, possibly, against Syria too.

People in the Arab world are becoming increasingly aware of the enormous, if not decisive, role played in the struggle against the aggressor by their political unity. In this connection it is scarcely possible to underestimate [as published] the significance of the conference of heads of Arab states and governments in Fes which drew up eight conditions for peace and security in the Near East. The principles embodied in the Fes decisions coincide to a large extent with the principles proclaimed by the Soviet Union and confirmed in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states.

The conference participants, the declaration states, "view positively the principles for the solution of the problem of a Near East settlement put forward by the conference of the heads of Arab states and governments in Fes and voice their conviction that an all-embracing settlement in the Near East must envisage: the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including east Jerusalem; recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestinine, including their right to the creation of their own independent state; the safeguarding of the right of all states of the region to a secure and independent existence and development; cessation of the state of war and the establishment of peace between the Arab states and Israel; the formulation and adoption of international guarantees for a peace settlement.

It is essential for the solution of these tasks to convene an international conference with the participation of all interested sides, including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine. An important role in this can and must be played by the United Nations.

The decisions adopted in Fes are only the beginning. It is essential to struggle daily for their implementation. But it is only possible to wage the struggle for the Fes principles by combining various means -- political and diplomatic, economic and military. Peoples fighting for their liberation or peoples who have fallen victim to imperialist aggression have legitimate recourse, naturally, to armed struggle against the aggressor or oppressor. But everything should not be staked solely on armed struggle to the neglect of other means of struggle. It would, I suppose, be just as harmful to rely solely on diplomacy. For the foes of the Arab peoples shun no means, and therefore their actions, no matter how "peacemaking" they may appear at first glance, demand the greatest vigilance.

The "Reagan plan," which, as we know, denies the right of the Palestinian Arabs to their own independent state and advocates the application of the Camp David principles to each Arab state in isolation -- that is, it advocates separate negotiations and an equally separate peace between the countries of the Near East and Israel -- met with another fiasco in Lebanon. It did not prove possible to physically eliminate the Arab people of Palestine: The Palestinian revolution is alive and fighting. Therefore the Palestinian problem too remains pivotal to a general settlement in the Near East. In the meantime it is also proving impossible to transform Lebanon into a second Egypt. In view of all these circumstances the United States is now attempting to impose its own plans for the Near East by camouflaging itself -- extremely crudely and absurdly, it is true -- with the Fes principles. In particular the United States is endeavoring to exploit to its advantage that point of the Fes declaration which deals not with the direct transfer of the occupied lands to the control of the PLO but initially to UN control. Here the United States is intending, before the transfer of the occupied lands to UN control (although as a matter of fact it is doing everything to prevent this happening), to put the appropriate pressure on the individual Arab states which the Western media rank as "moderate." For this it is utilizing all means of exerting pressure on these countries, particularly the so-called "umbrella of fear." This is essentially a means of intimidating the Arab countries with the prospect of Israeli retaliation if they act in a united front and render each other support. One such country, as the U.S. media are noting with increasing frequency, is Jordan. Israel is intimidating Jordan with the fact that it is second only to Syria on the aggressor's list, while the Americans are seducing Jordan with the prospect of enlarging itself at the expense of the Palestinians. To this end the United States is not averse to construing in its own way the meaning of the PLO leader's proposal concerning the creation, following the appearance on the map of the Near East of an independent state of Palestinian Arabs, of some form of confederation between it and Jordan.

The pause which I mentioned at the outset must in no event reassure the Arab countries and must not engender the vain hope of a change in the policy of the U.S. Administration. What is necessary is increased vigilance with regard to all steps and actions undertaken by the aggressors in the Near East.

What is necessary is to utilize to the full the inexhaustible source of support for the Palestinian Arabs' just cause represented by world progressive public opinion, and this is increasingly arriving at the only correct appraisal fo the Palestinian resistance movement as an organic component of the struggle for peace throughout the world. The danger of war stemming from the Near East of tension can be eliminated only with the settlement of the Palestinian problem, the chief problem of the entire Near East crisis. And if this is so, then the Palestinian fighters for their legitimate rights have every reason to expect from the world public still greater and more effective support for their just cause.

VELIOTES REMARKS ON U.S. TROOPS IN LEBANON NOTED

LD032031 Moscow TASS in English 1927 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- TASS commentator Igor Bereznikovskiy writes:

"It is likely U.S. troops will remain in war-torn Lebanon for another year." This was stated yesterday, according to a UPI report, by Assistant U.S. Secretary of State for Middle Eastern and South Asian Affairs Nicholas Veliotes. The pretext to prolong the term of the American military presence on the Lebanese territory is, he said, lack of progress in the course of Lebanese-Israeli negotiations with the participation of a representative of the U.S. Department of State.

These negotiations which were imposed upon the Lebanese side and which have been continuing five weeks now without results are known to set the aim to twist Lebanon's arms, to make it agree to grant Israel and the United States the "right" of military presence in the occupied south of the country and deployment there of Israeli espionage early detection and warning stations which could be used at any time for Tel Aviv's aggressive designs both against Lebanon itself and other Arab countries. The aggressor's designs are actually being put into life: The United States is building up the contingent of its Marines as part of the so-called "multinational force," it is establishing an American naval base on Lebanon's Mediterranean coast, it is drawing up a vast set of measures to "develop" jointly with Israel southern areas of the country, including large-scale construction of military facilities.

The statement made by Nicholas Veliotes is yet another confirmation and disclosure of the criminal plans of the American-Israeli military, a new cynical challenge to the independent Arab state -- the victim of aggression.

On the other hand -- and this is emphasized in Arab political circles -- the statement made by the senior representative of the American Administration on the intention to preserve for a long time the American military contingent in Lebanon coincides not at all accidentally with the current unbridled campaign of blackmail and undisguised military threats against Syria, neighbouring on Lebanon, open preparations for an Israeli aggression against that sovereign Arab country.

Heightening the Middle East situation to the extreme, the ruling circles of Washington and Tel Aviv seek to break the will of Arab peoples in the struggle against the aggressors, for a fair solution of the Middle East problem, to impose their military-political diktat upon Arab peoples.

KUWAITI DEPUTIES CRITICIZE U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

LD072016 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] Some deputies of the Kuwaiti parliament strongly criticized the U.S. anti-Arab policy in the Middle East. The Kuwaiti parliamentarians declared that the United States unconditionally supports the Israeli expansionists.

In view of this, the Kuwaiti parliamentarians urged all Arab countries to take a united stand in the face of the U.S. policy in the Middle East and called for a boycott of U.S. monopolies operating in the Arab world.

The U.S. neocolonialist policy in the Middle East has been strongly criticized by more than 150 Arab political and social organizations at a conference in Tripoli, Libya. These organisations strongly rejected the U.S. plans for a capitulatory settlement in the Middle East similar to Camp David and the well-known Reagan plan. The final statement, approved by the Tripoli conference, urged the necessity of the patriotic Arab forces to strongly challenge the policy of imperialist and Zionist invasion.

It is worth noting that the Lebanese tragedy, the full responsibility for which falls on the United States in addition to Tel Aviv, has given rise to an overwhelming wave of anti-U.S. sentiments in the Arab world. It is no longer possible for the United States to deceive them by its two-faced statements calling for peace.

At the same time, a call is rising in many Arab countries with increasing persistence for the development of amicable relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union and all the socialist countries and to support it by all means. The 150 Arab political and social organizations' conference welcomed the position of socialist bloc which supports the Arab struggle for liberty and independence.

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

LD022258 Moscow TASS in English 1902 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli February 2 TASS -- An extraordinary session of the Arab people's congress -- a mass organisation which affiliates more than 100 political, religious, trade union, youth and other public organisations from 17 Arab countries has opened in the capital of Libya.

The participants in the session will discuss questions pertaining to the situation in the Middle East, that developed as a result of the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, outlined the [word indistinct] of joint actions of the progressive forces, aimed at thwarting the criminal plans of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

Speaking at the opening of the session, leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi strongly criticised the U.S. policy towards [words indistinct] and declared that with Israel's help the U.S. Administration seeks to subordinate the Middle East to the military-political interest of American imperialism.

The aggression in Lebanon has not ended, stressed Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The Israeli military continues its criminal actions. This makes [words indistinct] the progressive Arab forces to thoroughly analyse the obtaining situation and enlist every effort to repel Tel Aviv's expansion. The leader of the Libyan revolution called for the strengthening of unity of the Arab ranks in the struggle against the Israeli aggression.

UN ENVOY ARRIVES IN TEHRAN FOR AFGHAN TALKS

LD080007 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Diego Cordovez, a special emissary of the UN secretary general, has arrived in Tehran after visiting Afghanistan and Pakistan. Cordovez is consulting with the leaders of the three countries in preparation for talks on solving problems concerning Afghanistan. The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan had earlier proposed talks with both Iran and Pakistan on normalizing the situation, stressing that the main purpose of the talks must be to end the armed and other interference in Afghan affairs.

SOVIET OFFICIAL ASSESSES BRAZIL-USSR TRADE

PY041813 Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil 2200 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Brazil is one of the main trade partners of the Soviet Union and of Latin American countries. In 1982, trade between Brazil and the Soviet Union reached approximately $800 million.

Today, dear listeners, we are going to broadcast an article by Nikolay Zinovyev, head of the Administration for Trade with American Countries of the Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry. The article was written at the request of our studio, and it reflects the current situation and the prospects of Soviet-Brazilian cooperation.

The Soviet Union supplies Brazil with machines, equipment, fertilizers, home and cultural items and petroleum every now and then, Zinovyev writes.

Soviet turbines and generators are operating well in the two Brazilian hydroelectric plants of Capivara and Sobradinho. Soviet machines and tools have demonstrated their quality in Brazilian enterprises. Nevertheless, Brazilian imports of machines and equipment are still insignificant, Zinovyev writes.

Soviet foreign trade organizations could propose to Brazilian companies the sale of machines for metallurgical industries and equipment for mining and petroleum exploitation, equipment for planes, forging presses, rollers, typographic machines and equipment for food industries.

Special attention is being paid to the sale of Soviet licenses for technological processes. Agreements on the sale of Soviet licenses for the production of alcohol from wood and for (?sawmills) were already signed. In this plan, the iron and steel industry, nonferrous steel industry, construction and heavy machines and the chemical industry could be the most promising fields for cooperation.

Soviet foreign trade organizations are buying from Brazil a variety of merchandise: soybeans, cocoa and almonds, cocoa byproducts, vegetable oils, sugar, poultry, and mass consumption items.

In 1982 there were some shipments of steel bands and some chemical products were purchased. We must remember that the Soviet Union is continuously working to expand the list of products imported from Brazil.

Imports from Brazilian products always surpass the sale of Soviet merchandise to Brazil. This of course, causes concern among Soviet organizations.

Zinovyev adds that one of the causes restricting the development of mutual trade is the lack of information on the export capacity of each of the two parties. In view of this, the holding of fairs, symposiums and visits by experts gain special significance. This point was also stressed in the latest meeting of the intergovernmental commission for economic-commercial and technological-scientific cooperation held in Brazil in July 1982.

Soviet experts have had the opportunity to visit Brazilian enterprises, to see for themselves the technical equipment and technological level. It is quite difficult to describe all the impressions of what was seen, but without a doubt the level of development of the two countries is high and it is imperative to develop new forms of economic and commercial cooperation.

A delegation of Brazilian experts also intends to make a visit to the Soviet Union during the first half of this year, to visit Soviet plants and to learn about Soviet machines and technology. The conclusions prepared by the two delegations will be used in the work of the commission to prepare positive measures aimed at expanding Brazilian-Soviet trade.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA INTERVIEWS BOLIVIAN CP LEADER

PM071215 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[APN and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA special correspondent Vladimir Markov interview with Jorge Kolle, first secretary of the Bolivian Communist Party Central Committee: "Difficulties and Successes of the Revolution" — date and place not specified]

[Text] Bolivia, which was considered in political terms one of the most unstable states in Latin America, returned to a constitutional form of government at the beginning of October 1982 after an 18-year domination by military regimes. The military was forced to hand over power to a civilian government. Hernan Zuazo Siles, who heads the left party bloc Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), which takes in the Leftist Nationalist [Revolutionary] Movement, the Leftist Revolutionary Movement and the Bolivian Communist Party, became Bolivia's president.

Jorge Kolle, first secretary of the Bolivian Communist Party Central Committee, in conversation with APN and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA special correspondent Vladimir Markov, talks about the situation in Bolivia and the immediate tasks facing the country.

[Question] Important changes have taken place in Bolivia's political life. There are two Communists in the UDP government. What is your estimation of the present situation in the country and the factors that brought about the UDP bloc's accession to power?

[Answer] The political change from reactionary dictatorship to popular democratic government became possible only because of the long and sustained struggle of the Bolivian people, the working class and all democratic and patriotic forces against reaction and profascist circles and in favor of the reestablishment of democratic freedoms and the implementation of reforms in the interests of the broad strata of the population. The majority of the Bolivian population took part in that struggle, and the Communists had considerable influence among them.

In order to stay in power the former regime, the oligarchy and multinational companies relied on the senior military ranks and the Armed Forces. However, the working class and people's masses were not only able to hold out in the struggle against reaction but also won over democratic and patriotic forces to their side, even from the military.

The UDP bloc has won the last three general elections. However, in 1980, for example, as a consequence of the military coup the election results were illegally rescinded. The people's elected representatives were forced to go underground. Now, with the new UDP government's accession to power, our country has entered a new stage in the development of the bourgeois democratic revolution whose foundation was laid as far back as 1952.

[Question] What kind of legacy has the Bolivian Government inherited from the military regime?

[Answer] It is certainly rare to encounter such unfavorable circumstances as those that attended the democratic government's creation. The previous regime's policy brought the country to a most critical financial and economic crisis with serious social consequences. A small handful of people have enriched themselves at the expense of the broad masses, who find themselves in a wretched state.

The mafia dealing in drugs and the numerous paramilitary groups oppose the process of stabilization in the country. This gives rise to crime and violence which reaction can exploit for political ends. Ensuring the security of the president himself and other the country's leaders requires the eradication of the terrorist groups and the mafia. Overcoming the catastrophic legacy of the previous regime will require great sacrifices and efforts of all the democratic and patriotic circles.

[Question] What are the immediate tasks that face the UDP government and Bolivia's Communists at the present stage?

[Answer] The chief thing now is to secure the consolidation of democratic government and exclude the possibility of a return to power of reactionary forces because we are aware that these forces have not yet been completely crushed. This will be much facilitated by the implementation of the government's program for overcoming the deep economic crisis in the interests of the working class and all the people. To secure success in the economic sphere it will be necessary to take measures which in part may not be very popular. However, we hope that the people's masses will realize the need for certain temporary sacrifices.

We must promptly pursue a consistent and comprehensive political policy so as to broaden the UDP government's social and political base. At the moment representatives of the Christian Democrats are members of the government, and this reflects the government's position that all democratic parties and progressive organizations must participate in the defense of democracy, the nation's sovereignty and progress.

The wide participation of the people's masses in state administration in the political, economic and social spheres is of decisive importance. The people's masses must come to realize that whether we succeed in overcoming the crisis and broadening the government's social and political base depends on them, and must offer the needed support.

[Question] The democratic reforms in Bolivia have caused indignation in the U.S. administration. Washington has even gone to the point of publicly expressing its displeasure at the participation of Communists in the UDP government.

[Answer] Our party always supported the UDP bloc in the last three elections. We took part in the development of the UDP election program and consequently we advocate its implementation. This is our lawful right, and no one is justified in calling this indisputable fact into question.

Our party's representatives in the government are highly trained specialists. They head the Ministry of Mines and Metallurgy and the Ministry of Labor and Labor Development, and their appointment to these posts fully meets the wishes and mandate of the electors and the trade unions.

Nevertheless, the United States and, in particular, the American Embassy in Bolivia is making increasing attempts to hinder the democratization process and secure the exclusion of Communists from the UDP government. Of course, it was impossible to expect that the changes that have taken place in Bolivia and the participation of Communists in the government would please American imperialism, which will vainly continue trying to reverse this process.

We realize that by attacking our party and the Communist ministers the United States is seeking to inflict a blow on the UDP government as a whole. However, our people are fully determined to defend their interests, and that includes the right of Communists to participate in government. Our party, as a party of the working class, together with other democratic and patriotic forces will unwaveringly maintain its course for the good of the Bolivian people.

REPORTAGE ON U.S.-HONDURAN MILITARY EXERCISES

'Belligerent Maneuvers'

PY041305 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From the "Latin American Events" feature by Vadim Bukharov]

[Text] The U.S. and Honduran Armed Forces continue with their joint maneuvers close to the Nicaraguan border.

These are the largest maneuvers that the United States has ever carried out with a Latin American country. Over 2,000 U.S. servicemen and around 4,000 Honduran soldiers are participating in the belligerent maneuvers along with U.S. war planes and ships, including the submarine "George Washington." This submarine carries nuclear weapons on board.

The maneuvers are a clearcut example of the harsh policy that the present U.S. Administration is implementing. Moreover, they are a U.S. attempt to impose its will on the Central American peoples through force.

The blatant U.S. interventionist policy is the object of widespread protests within the United States itself. Americans are alarmed at the prospect of Central America becoming another Vietnam. Seventy-eight U.S. Congressmen have referred to the maneuvers as an event posing a potential threat to peace. The PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER notes that the belligerent maneuvers are clearly provocative.

The maneuvers have also caused many Latin American countries to protest against them. Here are some reports in this regard:

In Bogota, Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Caicedo Lloreda stated that the military maneuvers close to the Nicaraguan border will by no means contribute to attaining peace in that disorder-stricken region.

On its part, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry expressed its concern over the presence of U.S. and Honduran soldiers close to the Nicaraguan border. Moreover, Panama's Foreign Ministry voiced its disapproval of the stance adopted by the Tegucigalpa government in this regard.

The Venezuelan newspaper EL NACIONAL noted that the maneuvers are a sinister provocation against Nicaragua and a threat to the peace and security of the Central American countries.

PRAVDA Commentary

LD050756 Moscow TASS in English 0615 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 5 TASS -- "The U.S. Administration's adventurist course in Central America is an example of the hypocrisy of Washington which, while the words posing as fighter against international terrorism, in actual fact widely supports terrorists and tries to intimidate the people of the country engaged in peaceful constructive labor". This is how the newspaper PRAVDA comments on the U.S.-Honduran military exercises near the borders of Nicaragua.

PRAVDA, quoting a pronouncement by an official spokesman of the Pentagon who openly admitted that the exercises should serve as a warning to Cuba and Nicaragua, writes: "It is evident that the USA does not abandon attempts at stopping by force of arms the process of progressive transformations in the region".

"The firing and large-scale movements of troops on the borders with Nicaragua are another stage in the protracted undeclared war which the United States is conducting against the revolutionary Nicaragua by means of obedient-to-the-USA reactionary regimes in Central America."

As far back as in 1981, PRAVDA recalls, U.S. President Reagan assigned 19 million dollars to the CIA for the conduct of subversive actions against the young republic which took the road of independent development. Since then military aid to Honduras border with Nicaragua. From those camps thousands of Somozistas make piratic inroads.

"In the face of threats and armed blackmail," the newspaper stresses, "the people of Nicaragua enhances vigilance, raises the combat efficiency of the army and strengthens detachments of people's militia. The world public support is on its side".

AUCCTU Expresses 'Profound Concern'

LD071943 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- The Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR expressed profound concern over the large-scale U.S.-Honduran maneuvers code-named "Big-Pine" held near the Nicaraguan border. The maneuvers are a fresh provocation and a rehearsal of an imperialist aggression against the Nicaraguan revolution.

On behalf of millions of Soviet working people, the Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR resolutely demanded an end to provocations against revolutionary Nicaragua and expressed ardent fraternal solidarity with the struggle of the Nicaraguan working people for the right to peaceful labor and respect for their sovereignty, and with the peoples of other Central American countries in their struggle for freedom and independence, for peace and social progress.

'Big Pine-83' Exercises End

LD071309 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Managua February 7 TASS -- American-Honduras "Big Pine" military exercises, which were held a few kilometres away from the frontier with Nicaragua, ended in Honduras on Sunday. That large-scale provocative action, which involved naval, air and ground forces of the two countries, was staged by the Pentagon, despite protests of the world public. In many countries the exercises were viewed as "the testimony of U.S. gross interference into affairs of Central America," as a threat to Nicaragua and the national liberation movements in the region.

The United States used military exercises in Honduras to strengthen the military of that country and inspire Somoza gangs, based on its territory, for new crimes against the people of Nicaragua. This was stated in an interview to the journal PATRIA LIBRE by member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, Minister of the Interior of Nicaragua Tomas Borge. Military equipment and weapons, brought by the United States to Honduras within the framework of the exercises, will be handed over to the Army of that country, he said.

The exercises are over, but the threat stays on, writes the Nicaraguan newspaper BARRICADA. The "Big Pine" exercises, the article stresses, are in line with U.S. aggressive plans towards Central America. The plans are aimed at destruction of the Sandinist people's revolution and suppression of the national liberation movements in the region.

Conclusions Drawn

LD070027 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1945 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] The joint U.S.-Honduran maneuvers ended today. They started on 1 February on Honduran territory in the immediate vicinity of the Nicaraguan border. NOVOYE VREMYA observer Aleksandr Baryshev notes:

The maneuvers codenamed Big Pine-83 are the largest military exercises ever held in Central America. More than 6,000 servicemen, one third of these being Americans, naval ships and Honduran coastal patrol boats, aircraft, and helicopters took part.

Furthermore the overtly provocative nature of these maneuvers should be noted. This is demonstrated by the choice of venue for their epicenter, that is areas neighboring Nicaragua where CIA-formed counterrevolutionary gangs consisting of Somoza men still at large have entrenched themselves. Command points have been equipped in this zone, airfields are being hurriedly reconstructed to receive heavy transport aircraft, and positions are being set up for long-range artillery.

During the Big Pine-83 exercises offensive landings were practiced both from the air and sea. News agencies have reported that the American George Washington nuclear submarine carrying nuclear weapons was sent toward Central America.

Now that the Big Pine-83 maneuvers have ended, a number of conclusions may be drawn. By knocking together a large striking contingent on the border with Nicaragua, Washington demonstrated its desire to use force in order to overthrow the Sandinista Government and to restore the former system which used to prevail in the country. Official representatives of the Pentagon declared that the Big Pine exercises are a warning to Cuba and Nicaragua.

It is evident however that the aim of the maneuvers was not just against Cuba and Nicaragua. They were multipurpose maneuvers. This is testified by the extension of their zone. The U.S. and Honduran military came close together also for the possible intrusion into El Salvador which is enveloped in a civil war. Prior to the start of the maneuvers a large contigent of the Honduran troops was speedily transferred across the border to the Salvadoran department of Morazan in order to reinforce the members of the Salvadoran punitive corps. During the maneuvers the NOTISAL agency said that a large contingent of U.S. Marines was transferred to El Salvador on the pretext of protecting the life and property of U.S. citizens.

Thus it is evident that Washington is fanning yet one more smouldering hotbed of war on our planet.

SOLUTIONS TO LABOR DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS OFFERED

IZVESTIYA Editorial

PM041127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Discipline Is the Key Link"]

[Text] Man in a socialist society is renowned for labor, and for labor alone. Socialist discipline has always been the basis of shock work. A popular saying runs: Discipline and labor go together. Indeed, the return on labor and overall final success in resolving the great and crucial tasks of communist building depend on the personal composure and organization of every worker, specialist and leader.

Lenin's demand to ensure the strictest discipline and everyone's responsibility for the work being fulfilled is especially topical at the present stage of the economy's development, when economic ties among enterprises are becoming increasingly complex and multifaceted and when the dependence of end production results on every worker's labor contribution is increasing sharply.

The CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum decisions are imbued with Leninist concern for strong discipline in production. The sharp formulation of this question at the plenum elicited a warm response from urban and rural working people. It was no coincidence that the question was phrased this way at meetings of labor collectives: Only the strictest discipline is a reliable guarantee of the unconditional fulfillment of production plans and socialist pledges, of further growth in labor productivity, improved production efficiency and better output quality.

Workers and specialists at Moscow's Sergo Ordzhonikidze machine tool building plant spoke of the nationwide support for the party line of strengthening labor discipline and order in production at their meeting with Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The machine tool plant collective was among the initiators of the movement for improved labor organization and enhanced labor and production discipline. The machine tool builders have decided to increase labor productivity by at least 1.5-2 percent in 1983 just by reducing losses of worktime. This is the quite concrete result of enhancing discipline at every workplace.

Addressing the machine tool builders, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov emphasized: "We need conscious worker discipline, such as will advance production. We must fill the struggle for discipline with great substance and link it directly to the fulfillment of production targets, and then there will be no hot air, so to speak. Then that which the November plenum of the party's Central Committee outlined will be fulfilled."

The nationwide struggle to strengthen discipline and order in production, which has been mounted on the initiative of Muscovites, reflects a demand of life itself. Without strong labor, production, plan and state discipline we will be unable to make rapid progress and successfully resolve the tasks of the present, pivotal year and the 5-year plan as a whole. The absentee, the slipshod worker and the idler harms not only himself but, above all, the collective and society as a whole.

Not requiring any capital investment, the instilling of order in production produces a tremendous saving. In this work we must not confine ourselves to superficial measures, with just a worker somewhere being rebuked for arriving 5 minuts late or stepping out for a smoke. Of course, this is important too; But it must be a question, above all, of a serious attitude to all aspects of production discipline, including technologicial and supply discipline.

Estimates show that totally unjustified losses of worktime in many enterprises reach 3 days a year per working person. The losses are even greater in certain sectors. Thus, a time study of the use of metal-working equipment in enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production showed that the within-shift and whole-shift idletime of equipment every 24 hours, expressed in terms of a two-shift regime, is so great that it is equivalent to one-fourth of the equipment in the sector standing idle. Inadmissible losses!

Indeed, discipline, to use Lenin's words, is the chief link which must be grabbed in order to draw out the whole chain. We lose millions of man-hours as a result of brief absences from production, smoking breaks and absenteeism. But there are not fewer unrecorded losses, when certain people work in a slipshod manner, produce defective products and let down subcontractors along the technological flow line.

Praise and honor to progressive workers and leaders of the socialist competition. However, their efforts alone cannot resolve the problem entirely. Everyone must fulfill the set target every day. But a worker's personal composure is not enough for this. It is important for foremen, technologists and shop chiefs to ensure conditions for the plan's fulfillment without nervous strain and unnecessary fuss and for related production facilities to produce billets and subassemblies on schedule and to a high quality. Of course, it is very important for leaders of production and industrial associations and planning and supply organs to approach the elaboration of plans and the provision of material and technical supplies with proper responsibility. In other words, the strengthening of executive discipline is a matter for everyone -- from worker to minister.

Labor discipline is directly linked with plan discipline. A high return cannot be expected from worktime if someone turns up at a machine tool on time but the equipment has not been adjusted and certain components are missing, if production is badly planned and many operations suitable for mechanization have to be done by hand. Incidentally, it is a characteristic fact that workers employed on labor-intensive manual operations account for the largest number of absences and violations of labor discipline. It is also important to emphasize something else: Violations of discipline occur more rarely where the struggle to save working minutes is well organized, where concern is shown to save material resources and, finally, where much is done to create favorable work and leisure conditions.

Party and trade union committees and soviets are called upon to support everything progressive in every possible way and to foster respect for all who work honestly. Conditions -- economic and organizational -- must be created everywhere to stimulate good-quality and productive labor, while bad work, inactivity and irresponsibility would affect the material remuneration, official position and moral authority of workers.

At his meeting with the Moscow machine tool builders Comrade Yu.V. Andropov called for questions of strengthening discipline to be resolved "by the whole world, the entire working people." This concerns every one of us. The greater our successes, the stronger our economy will be, and the better things are in the national economy, the stronger the international positions of the land of the soviets and the more lasting peace on earth will be.

It all starts with discipline!

Moscow's Record Reviewed

LD041730 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Summary] A session of the Standing Commission for Construction and the Building Materials Industry of the Moscow Soviet today discussed problems of strengthening labor discipline at the capital's building sites.

Correspondent Olga Vasilenko reports that over 70,000 people are working at industrial sites or building highways, water pipelines and communications projects in the capital. It was noted that a struggle is underway to combat wastage of working time. Last year's plan for volume of contract work and for labor productivity was generally fulfilled, but other facts have emerged which show that the state of affairs is by no means satisfactory everywhere. Last year alone, at the Moscow industrial construction and Moscow engineering construction administrations, wastage of work time exceeded 50,000 working days. This was the result of shirking work and wasting time at work. At one of the Moscow construction administration's trusts, time wasted amounted to 13 percent of work time because materials were not always supplied to the sites and work was often held up. Constant changing of the work teams was one of the reasons for the poor discipline and fluctuation of cadres.

One of the reasons people are leaving the building sites is the shortage of kindergartens and creches. Not all young people's hostels are well appointed and some people are spending 1-2 hours getting to work. Deputies at the session learned that workers prefer first and foremost not so much a high wage -- which, of course, is also an important factor -- but better labor organization and a friendly work environment. One important factor in strengthening labor discipline is brigade contract work but this form is still not being widely adopted at the sites.

Tomsk Oblast Discussion

LD041628 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] The meeting of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with Moscow machine tool builders is at the center of attention of workers in Tomsk Oblast. Workers meetings were held today at all labor collectives at which the Siberians discussed the question of putting into practice the requirements of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum on strengthening discipline and efficiency, and the resolute elimination of drunkenness and violations of law and order.

Last year at our works there were over 1,000 cases of truancy, (Lyudmilla Vasilyevna Loginova), secretary of the party committee of the cutting instruments works, said to our correspondent. This means that the enterprise was tens of thousands of roubles' worth of instruments short in supplying the national economy. As well as the material damage, great moral damage was done.

At the workers meetings today we are examining every incident of violation of labor, production and state discipline. In the future we shall conduct the most resolute struggle against violators of any type. We shall fulfill the intensive plans and pledges of the third year of the 5-year plan ahead of schedule.

Discipline: Vital Link

PM041311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Responsible for Assigned Work"]

[Text] In any matter, irrespective of its scale, extraordinarily important, if not paramount, significance attaches to organization, order, and a high sense of responsibility. All these categories can be linked together by a single, capacious concept -- the concept of discipline: discipline in the broad sense which regulates people's actions and motives and, naturally, requires a highly aware, conscientious attitude toward assigned work and does not allow it to be performed negligently, and just in any manner.

The importance of this discipline increases particularly under the conditions of the planned, multisectorial and large-scale economy. After all, the slightest breakdown in one link of this economy inevitably affects the viability of other links.

The Soviet economy has now accumulated a powerful production potential to resolve any tasks. The land of the soviets has major physical resources, we have a strong, politically and professionally skilled working class and a progressive technical intelligentsia. It is important to use with the maximum efficiency the very rich physical and manpower resources and to persistently bring unused reserves into play. One of these reserves is the all-around consolidation of discipline and order and the enhancement of responsibility in all sectors of the national economy.

The letters reaching the IZVESTIYA editorial office attest that Soviet people unanimously support the party's course toward stepping up the struggle against any manifestations of lack of organization, indiscipline and thriftlessness. There is no doubt that any violation of labor or production discipline should not go unheeded. The role of the workers' collectives, party and trade union organizations and deputy production groups is great here. Many plants, factories, construction sites, institutions, and organizations have warmly supported the initiative of the Muscovites who have announced a campaign to consolidate state, labor and production discipline and order in production and a merciless struggle against idlers, absentees, drunkards, and slipshod workers.

But the concept of discipline is not restricted to arriving at work on time. Unfortunately, it still happens that people and machinery stand idle because of the lack of the necessary blanks and subassemblies. Production rhythm is frequently disrupted because of errors in the planning and management of production. That is why the question today is put thus: Strengthening discipline and organization means seeking a high level of responsibility and the precise execution of their official duties by one and all -- from worker to sector leader. Key significance here attaches to the selection and placement of cadres. At the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum Comrade Yu.V. Andropov particularly stressed that the decisive sectors should be manned by politically mature, competent, enterprising people with a feeling for what is new. Our party and the Soviet state have produced reliable cadres of economic leaders who are setting an example of a high level of organization and efficiency and the ability to resolve complex tasks promptly and skillfully. Now as never before every production organizer is required to have a profound understanding of the CPSU's economic policy, to observe general state interests unconditionally and to be able to use the advantages of the socialist system of economic management in the interests of the matter.

Growing significance attaches to the intensification of the responsibility of the USSR Gosplan, ministries and departments for the compilation and verification of the fulfillment of plans and for the quality of administrative decisions. On this depends to a great extent the precise work of the labor collectives, and, consequently, the state of all our social production, the consolidation of order in all links of the national economy, and the intensification of the economy and the improvement of the quality of work.

The ministries and departments and leaders and specialists personally must set an example in the struggle to strengthen discipline and organization and to enhance efficiency and responsibility. It is necessary to improve the organization of the work of the central management apparatuses, to assert everywhere a Leninist style of activity -- a style of precision, efficiency, obligation, principledness and the highest sense of responsibility. Unfortunately the correction of plans is a method which has still not been eliminated in the practice of some ministries and departments, and this objectively deprives the administrative organs of the right to make people strictly answerable for their unconditional fulfillment.

The role of the indicators of output prime cost, the equality of output, labor productivity, the saving of physical resources, and the use of capital investments and fixed capital must be enhanced in assessing the results of the activity of enterprises and associations. It is essential to seek to ensure that an economic contract really becomes a fundamental document determining the rights and duties of enterprises and associations for the production and deliveries of all types of output.

Every Soviet person must be well aware that the fulfillment of the plans and pledges for 1983 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole also depends on his personal contribution and the quality of his work. The economic leaders and public organizations must consistently and universally implement the demand that shock work for the benefit of society must be encouraged materially and morally. It is necessary to create working conditions and a moral atmosphere in the collectives promoting highly productive high-quality work and generating initiative and enterprise. Idleness and irresponsibility must have the most direct and inevitable effect on workers' material rewards, official position, and prestige.

In developing people's labor activeness, the soviets, trade unions and economic leaders must pay more attention to moral factors, to the formation in each worker of a sense of responsibility for assigned work and of personal commitment to common concerns. The best workers enjoy honor and respect in our society. This attitude toward a person on the part of the collective and society, as is well known, instills new strength in him and prompts him to work even better.

The personal example of the leader or specialist is an important condition for forming a highly aware, responsible attitude toward matters among the masses. Their duty is to give all their energy, knowledge and experience to the implementation of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and not only to work conscientiously themselves but also to lead others toward high results in work, to struggle uncompromisingly against shortcomings, and to set an example in everything.

If every person at his post begins to fulfill his duties precisely, with the maximum responsibility, and to work conscientiously, then our economy will increase its potential still further without additional capital investments and Soviet people will live still better. The country's successes in communist building depend on the work of each one of us!

WORK WITH COMPLAINTS, LETTERS EXAMINED

CPSU Department Chief

LD052335 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1040 GMT 5 Feb 83

["Attention to Letters of Working People" program presented by Boris Pavlovich Yakovlev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Letters Department]

[Excerpts] Comrades, the greater the scale and complexity of the questions being solved by the Soviet people, the greater the significance assumed by the social activity of every person. Soviet man does not detach himself from the concerns of the state; he is concerned with everything. That is why the flow of letters from working people with proposals, critical remarks and requests to party, administrative, trade union and economic organs is so great. The letter writers analyze various problems of public life, and propose ways of solving them and methods of eliminating existing shortcomings. A solicitous, attentive attitude toward letters and views and toward the initiatives of the working people is regarded by the party as one of the fundamental criteria. Working people's letters are a barometer of public opinion and an inexhaustible source of creative solutions.

The CPSU Central Committee, local party, administrative, trade union organizations and the mass media received hundreds of thousands of letters in 1982. They contained a broad response to the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum. The letters note that the plenum's provisions and conclusions on key national economic problems are of great mobilizing significance in raising the level of efficiency, organization and discipline in all sectors of economic and cultural construction. Soviet people responded just as warmly to the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. What is characteristic is that many letters give a businesslike, critical appraisal of achievements and described measures being adopted for fuller and more efficient use of existing reserves and opportunities, for strengthening plan, labor and production discipline.

Honest people -- and they are in the majority -- are meeting with satisfaction the measures being adopted to intensify the struggle against everything that slows our advance, Comrade (Yelistratov) writes from Saransk. The people are fully determined to eliminate various kinds of violators of discipline and all those whose actions run counter to the norms of Soviet communal life.

Particular attention is given to letters from working people concerning ways and methods of implementing the Food Program, and the leadership of the Central Committee receives systematic information about this.

I can report with satisfaction that because of the efforts and concern of the CPSU Central Committee, local attention to letters has noticeably increased in recent years. The social authority of this work has increased, and its influence on the resolution of current and long-term tasks has become more effective. Decisions of great national economic importance are frequently adopted in accordance with working people's letters.

Party committees have intensified demands on leading cadres for correct and effective resolution of issues raised in letters and at personal receptions. More profound analysis of incoming mail has begun; the most valuable suggestions are being implemented; and they are taking account of problems posed by those making declarations in their plans. Cases of bureaucracy, red tape, callousness, and heartlessness have been reduced, although there still remains quite a lot of nonparty phenomena and spiritual deafness [khotya i nemalo ostalos i nepartiynykh proyavleniy i dushevnoy glukhoty]. Improvement of work with letters and organization of personal reception has begun to be regularly discussed at plenums, sessions of bureaus and secretariats of party committees and at sessions of local soviets.

The forms of work with letters are wide and varied. Working people have come to like the open letter days already mentioned, visits to labor collectives by party and administrative workers, question-and-answer evenings, personal receptions at the workplace or place of residence of the population, and many other forms. One should not wait for complaints and distress calls but should go to people at their workplaces in the fields and at homes and then it will be quite clear what disturbs them, what has to be put right and what has to be changed.

Of course, not all requests can be satisfied on the same day; not all complaints can be resolved as the complainant would like; and claims are not always justified. But whatever the case, appeals must not be just brushed aside. An explanation must be given, and a clear and correct answer on the substance of the issues must be posed. This is also efficiency, it is also production of results.

An analysis of mail sometimes makes one think: Why do people turn to the central organs on insignificant matters which it is quite possible to resolve on the spot? Checks show that it is because they are simply not resolved locally but just receive a formal reply [otpisyvayutsya].

Personal reception of citizens has been and remains an important point in strengthening ties with the masses.

Where else but in a confidential talk can a party, administrative or trade union worker gain a clear impression of the needs of the people and sort out in a profound way the issues that disturb them? It is our duty to strengthen this direct and immediate link with the people in every way, to develop and improve it for the common well-being. Unfortunately not all leaders of institutions follow this rule.

I would like to stress once again that in the style and methods of leaders' work with people there must be skill in listening, in going into their requests and remarks profoundly and attentively, and particular attention must be paid to complaints; significance must be attached to them and the necessary measures adopted.

Letters on housing stand out for their quantity among the great variety of letters arriving at the CPSU Central Committee. What is the reason for so many of them arriving? In the first place, the requirements of our people have risen. The nature of requests has changed. Now requests are more often not just for a roof over one's head, as they were 5 or 10 years ago, but for a separate, well-appointed flat. This is logical. It corresponds to our economic growth and is fixed in the USSR Constitution. We do a lot of construction -- no one can compare with us in this. More than 100 million square meters of residential floorspace is commissioned every year. It is a lot, but unfortunately it is not enough. Local party and administrative organs should achieve stricter control over the resolution of the housing problem, and first and foremost they should strive for unconditional fulfillment of construction plans and for enhancing its quality.

But the most alarming letters on this theme are on grounds of injustices occasioned, of infringements of the law in accounting for and distributing housing. For this reason a struggle must be waged resolutely with complete party-like strictness and principle against abuses, against those who would like to use their job status and various illegal influences in this matter.

I would also like to point out one substantial factor which is a cause of letters and complaints: This is the tardy and poor repair of housing. According to the RSFSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services the length of time that a house is under repair often amounts to 3-5 years, instead of 6-12 months according to plan. There are also cases of abuse of funds released for housing: Instead of financial funds and material resources being concentrated in the construction of housing, schools, hospitals and children's establishments, in certain towns (?unique) places of entertainment and sports facilities are constructed without any particular need. Such a practice has long been strictly condemned.

The CPSU Central Committee receives many letters on trade, on shortage of shopping services, and many complaints are justified. Can their number be reduced? Yes, of course, if the citizens' opinions are heeded and if the necessary measures are adopted. But the main thing is to select store staff well and to do training work with them. Trade organizations and other establishments and enterprises in the services sphere and local party and administrative organs will have to do a great deal in order to eliminate the causes of complaints; in particular they will have to establish opening hours which are more convenient for the population.

I would also like to draw the attention of local party, administrative, trade union and law enforcement organs to the examination of letters on infringements of labor legislation. We believe that these letters should be given exceptional attention. This attention is required all the more since many complaints on this score are justified and lawful.

Demands on the apparatus of management [apparat upravleniya] are growing, and this is in order. They are also growing in particular in a sector of activities as important as work with letters and organization of reception of working people.

The task here is not simple. The greater the responsibility of party and administrative workers, the more effectively they must react and the more principled their approach must be to evaluating negative facts and phenomena. Work with interest, effective, comprehensive and profound examination of suggestions, and taking into account opinions of everything that concerns the life of our society are an important sector in the work of the apparatus of management.

Tasks of Procuracy

PM041227 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 82 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "Taking Heed of the Working People's Letters"]

[Text] The Collegium of the USSR prosecutor's office has discussed measures to improve the way in which the work of examining letters, complaints and statements from citizens is organized in Procuracy organs. It was noted that prosecutors are doing a considerable amount of work to deal with complaints and statements received from working people, paying a great deal of attention to receiving them in person and taking steps to restore citizens' labor, housing and other constitutional rights and to eliminate the causes of and conditions conducive to lawbreaking. Oversight of the execution of legislation on the procedure for examining proposals, statements and complaints from citizens in ministries and departments and the enterprises, establishments and organizations under their jurisdiction has been stepped up.

At the same time, however, there are serious shortcomings in this important work.

Instances of formalism and red tape in the examination of statements and complaints and of such statements being dismissed without grounds, thus giving rise to further appeals from citizens, still occur. The correct organization of the reception of the population, including during the evenings and on days off, is still not being ensured everywhere.

In checking up on the execution of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree "On the Procedure for Examining Citizens' Suggestions, Statements and Complaints" by ministries, state committees and departments, enterprises, establishments and organizations, local soviet executive and administrative organs, kilkhozes, cooperative and other social organizations and officials, prosecutors sometimes do not display principledness and do not try to really eliminate the transgressions which come to light and neglect to raise the question of the responsibility of the officials to blame.

Prosecutors of the union and autonomous republics, krays, oblasts and autonomous oblasts and okrugs, and rayon, city, military and transport prosecutors have been instructed to step up oversight of compliance with legislation on the procedure for examining complaints, improve work to examine citizens' suggestions, statements and complaints and the organization of the reception of citizens, and fix reception days and hours in such a way that working people are able to visit the prosecutor's office in their free time.

PRAVDA CALLS FOR TIGHTENING OF PEOPLE'S MILITIA

PM071235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "People's Militiamen"]

[Excerpts] Hundreds of thousands of activists with armbands bearing the letters DND [voluntary people's Militia] take to the streets of the country's cities and villages every day. The 26th CPSU congress gave a high assessment of the public's efforts in the struggle to further strengthen socialist legality and law and order. The provisions and conclusions contained in speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, orient Soviet people clearly toward the idea that the decisive force in our forward movement will remain man, his responsible attitude to matters and his active civic stance. The party sets the task of resolutely getting rid of everything that is contrary to the norms of Soviet communal living and socialist morality. In the light of these demands great significance is attached to the initiative of Muscovites, who put forward an appeal to step up the struggle for exemplary public order, and increase the role of law enforcement organs, the broad public, labor collectives and voluntary people's militia groups in defense of state interests and the rights of the individual.

Party organizations devote great attention to the work of the people's militia groups. This is yielding tangible positive results. Thus in Kaluga, by a decision of the party gorkom, measures involving voluntary formations of working people are incorporated in the plan for the city's socioeconomic development. In particular, 58 posts and routes for guard and patrol duty together with milita detachments are defined. They keep an eye constantly on not only clubs, movie theaters, hostels, main transport routes and other busy places, but also the suburbs and secluded yards. The people of Kaluga practice specialization among people's militia groups in such spheres as individual preventive work, traffic safety and the struggle against parasites, absentees, drunkards and violators of hunting and fishing regulations.

An important component of work by public formations is the safeguarding of socialist property. Activists in specialized people's Militia groups can, in particular, make a weighty contribution to the implementation of the country's Food Program. Along with enterprises' administrations, employees of the department for the struggle against embezzlements of socialist property and speculation and people's control workers, they must ensure the safekeeping of machinery and material and financial resources and their utilization strictly for the purpose intended in all components of the agroindustrial complex.

The organizational centers for the work of people's Milita groups at places of residence are the public posts for the preservation of order. One such post which has earned a good reputation is the one set up by the collective of the Stupino metallurgical combine, which is in the Moscow region. Its social council, pooling the efforts of the people's Militia, the comradely court and Militia inspectors, strives to strengthen order and discipline at the enterprise and outside it and to improve the local moral climate and helps to organize cultural leisure.

Soviet people take part enthusiastically in work aimed at strengthening public order. But as PRAVDA's mail indicates, the working people's activeness does not always meet with proper support. Certain measures are at times implemented only formally, for the record. Sometimes people's militiamen ignore misdemeanours and interrupt or abandon their duty earlier than the time laid down. In a number of regions in Kazakhstan and Vologda Oblast local organs do not study the work of the people's Militia groups in depth and show little concern for strengthening their ranks. Here such groups have by no means been created in all settlements, and their work is particularly weak in rural localities.

Local soviets, which exercise day-to-day leadership over people's Militia groups, are called on to coordinate their efforts, disseminate positive experience and open the door to new mass forms of public participation in maintaining order. For instance, the practice of creating combined operational detachments for work in difficult sectors and territories and for servicing mass cultural and sporting events has been entirely vindicated. Local soviet ispolkoms should persistently improve the organizational leadership of voluntary formations of working people and display more active concern for materially providing for them and making sure that they are allocated the necessary premises, transport and communications facilities.

The struggle against negative phenomena is the more successful, the closer the ties are between the voluntary people's Militia and the Militia. The main thing is for them to act in a planned, coordinated way, informing each other on the state of affairs on their assigned territory. Such cooperation increases mutual responsibility for law and order, while socialist legality is observed more strictly with regard to citizens.

For the people's militiaman there is no greater honor or higher duty than the protection of society's interests and citizens' dignity. Labor collectives, channeling their best representatives into the voluntary Militia groups, place great trust in them and entrust them with an important sector of public work. It is their honorable duty, under the leadership of party and soviet organs, to be increasingly active in strengthening socialist legality, be principled champions of exemplary production and social discipline and establish a high standard in daily life.

AMNESTY HEAD VLADIMOV CALLED TO VISA OFFICE

NC071918 Paris AFP in English 1910 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, Feb 7 (AFP) -- Writer Georgiy Vladimov, head of the Soviet branch of Amnesty International, has been called to the visa office tomorrow, dissident sources said here today. Mr. Vladimov recently filed an application for an emigration visa. He alleged harassment by the Soviet state security police, the KGB, which had ordered him to disavow his "anti-Soviet labors".

Mr. Vladimov, author of "Three Minutes of Silence" which was published in the West, had announced his decision in a letter to Soviet Communist Party chief Yuriy Andropov. In his letter, Mr. Vladimov said: "No one wants to go into exile. No one wishes this. The question is merely whether one gives up or whether one endures one's fate for a longer time."

LEADER APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Solomentsev at RSFSR Farming Parley

PM072143 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "New Targets for the Countryside"]

[Text] The results of RSFSR agricultural development last year and tasks for 1983 in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums were discussed on 7 February at an enlarged session of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture Collegium.

It was noted that the republic's rural workers have mapped out big plans for increasing the production and sale to the state of arable farming and livestock products.

The main ways to fulfill them are by increasing the yield of all crops and the productivity of livestock and poultry, displaying a comprehensive approach to the intensification of crop growing on the basis of making rational use of and improving the fertility of land, introducing zonal arable farming systems, making full use of the advantages of industrial processes for producing crops and livestock unity output, and implementing major measures for the social transformation of the contryside. Stress was laid on strengthening the rayon level of administration, utilizing economic levers to boost the efficiency of kolkhozes' and sovkhozes' work and introducing on a broad basis financial autonomy, scientific and technical achievements and advanced experience.

M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, addressed the session.

I.K. Kapustyan, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Department; executives from the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, RSFSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gosplan, USSR Minsitry of Agriculture and RSFSR Gosplan; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments participated in the Collegium's work.

Gorbachev at Gosplan Meeting

LD072312 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] An expanded session of the USSR Gosplan Collegium was held on 7 February. It discussed measures for implementing the country's Food Program. Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the session.

Taking part in the work of the Collegium were Comrade Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee; Comrade Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; USSR ministers; the presidents of the Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences and of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; and also chiefs of a number of ministries and departments and senior workers of the USSR Gosplan.

Gorbachev, Chemical Workers

LD071927 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From the Vremya Newscast]

[Text] There was a meeting today in Moscow of the Collegium of the chemicals industry and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Chemicals and Petrochemicals Industry Workers Union.

Comrade Listov, chemical industry minister, reported on the industry's 1982 work results and the tasks for fulfilling the 1983 plan in light of the CPSU Central Committee's November plenum and Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's speech at the plenum.

The meeting of the Collegium noted shortcomings in the development of the industry, analyzed the reasons for nonfulfillment of the production plan in certain types of output and outlined specific measures for improving work.

Emphasis was placed on the need to increase the rates of growth in labor productivity, to speed up the introduction of several very important capacities in order to more efficiently organize supplies and deliveries within the industry, to improve transportation efficiency and transportation work, and to strengthen plan, labor, production and technological discipline.

Taking part in the work of the Collegium were Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Kostandov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Afonin, chief of the Chemical Industry Department at the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the people's control organs.

Gorbachev on Land Reclamation

LD041353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Excerpts] An enlarged session of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources is taking place in Moscow today. The meeting is discussing the results of last year's work and the tasks for this year in light of the decision of the November CPSU Central Committee plenum.

Comrade Gorbachev, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is taking part in the Collegium's work.

Solomentsev, RSFSR Ministers

PM041453 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Unnamed correspondent's report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Excerpts] At a session held 31 January, the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined topical questions connected with the implementation of the Food Program.

The Presidium session was chaired by M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

Aliyev at Maritime Fleet, TU Meeting

LD271352 Moscow Maritime Service in Russian 0030 GMT 25 Jan 83

[From the "For Those at Sea" Program]

[Excerpt] We have already reported that an extended session of the Collegium of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the Central Committee Presidium of the Trade Union of Maritime and River Fleet Workers, was held recently. Also participating in the session were the heads of shipping lines and ports, directors of ship repair yards, heads of directorates, associations of the ministry, secretaries of shipping line party committees and chairmen of basin trade union committees.

Maritime Fleet Minister Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko delivered a report on the results of the industry's work in 1982 and tasks for fulfilling the 1983 plan in light of the decisions of the November 1982 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Seventh Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Fifth Convocation.

Participants in the session analyzed the situation in sea transportation, which is an important part of the country's unified transportation system. They appraised the front-ranking work experience of labor collectives which allowed the industry as a whole and all major subunits to fulfill on schedule their commitments and plan targets of the second year of the 5-year plan.

They exposed shortcomings and failure to use reserves, and planned ways of improving the effectiveness and quality of work of the fleet and the ports.

Special attention was paid to the need for more effective use of the specialized fleet and enhancement of the flow capacity of berths and the mechanized capacities of ship repair yards in order to successfully fulfill the 1983 plans and socialist pledges for shipping. Participants' attention was drawn to further development of scientific-technical progress in maritime transportation, the introduction of a front-ranking transport-technological system, the high economic effectiveness of containerization and packaging of shipments, and the improvement of coordination with ancillary forms of transportation -- rail, road and river -- within the framework of the transportation system, and with the suppliers and receivers of freight.

Participants in the session stressed the exclusive significance of the further improving work with cadres, increasing their exactingness in the cause of strict observance of state, technological and labor discipline [passage indistinct] radio instructions for the purpose of not permitting commercial spoilage, accidents and injury. At the same time, the importance of further enhancing concern for workers in the industry, and improving their working and living conditions was emphasized. Speakers at the session devoted considerable time to questions of improving management, socialist competition, and the wide propagation of front-ranking experience.

Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the session. Also taking part in the work of the Collegium were Simonov, head of the CPSU Central Committee Transportation and Communication Department; Konarev, minister of railways. Sychenikov, chairman of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Maritime and River Fleet Workers; officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, the AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, the USSR People's Control Committee, and of ministries and departments. The Collegium adopted a resolution on concrete measures to improve the work of the fleet, the ports, the ship repair enterprises, and all subunits of maritime transportation in order to secure unconditional fulfillment of the industry's 1983 plan and socialist commitments.

Romanov at Leningrad Aktiv

PM041431 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 83 p 1

[LENTASS report: "Let Us Make the Third Year of the 5-Year Plan a Year of Shock Labor"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday a meeting of the aktiv of party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, together with representatives of working people's collectives was held at the Smolnyy. They discussed the tasks to ensure the successful fulfillment of the plan for comprehensive economic and social development for 1983 and the socialist pledges of the working people of Leningrad and its oblast for 1983.

The meeting was opened by G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom.

Those assembled elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium composed of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. B.S. Andreyev, chairman of the oblast trade unions council, delivered a report.

G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom, addressed the meeting.

Romanov on Leningrad's Gains

PM041401 [Editorial Report] LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA on 19 January publishes on page 1 a LENTASS report entitled "Your Feat Is Immortal, Guards of the Breach!" It states that "G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom, opened a ceremonial session on 18 January at the S.M. Kirov Academy theater of opera and ballet to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Leningrad blockade." G.V. Romanov addressed the meeting and after describing the historical background said: "Peace, creation and the good of the people are the goals which the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has proclaimed and for the sake of which it works tirelessly.

"Fidelity to these goals was reaffirmed in the report of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the celebrations in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

"We are following the Leninist path. We look to the future with optimism. History has taught us to be patient. This is what we have done and will continue to do!

"Today and always, the hero city of Leningrad and order-bearing Leningrad Oblast devote their immeasurably increased scientific, technical, production and spiritual potential to the service of the motherland, the strengthening of its economic and defense might and the successful implementation of the decisions of our Leninist party's 26th congress."

Shcherbitskiy Speech at Farm Session

AU031919 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 30 Jan 83 p 1

[RATAU report on concluding speech by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, at the 28 January republic scientific and production conference on the problems of raising the stability and productivity of grain farming, held in Kiev -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] Comrades: The report and speeches have convincingly showed the possibilities and ways of raising the stability and productivity of grain farming in the republic. A number of proposals of substantial practical value have been made.

The recommendations adopted have further specified the zonal and oblast systems previously worked out for farming. After they are edited, the recommendations, report and speeches will be published, as the comrades proposed, in separate pamphlets. A wide campaign must be organized to explain proposals made by scientists in the press, radio and television.

A number of requests and critical remarks were made at the conference, and they are to be operatively examined by the republic's appropriate ministries and departments.

What matters now is to make farm managers and specialists aware of everything discussed at the present conference and, taking into account local conditions, to organize the practical application of the measures worked out. For this purpose, it is expedient to hold in February OBLAST AND RAYON SCIENTIFIC AND PRODUCTION SEMINARS IN ORDER TO CAREFULLY EXAMINE THE STATE OF AFFAIRS, AND, WITH AN EYE ON THE SOIL AND CLIMATIC PECULIARITIES OF THE ZONE, TO FIND THE MOST EFFECTIVE APPLICATION FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED TODAY.

Ministerial, oblast and rayon leaders must see to it that EACH FARM MANAGER, SPECIALIST, SCIENTIST, SELECTIONER AND FARMER IS WELL AWARE OF THE CRUX OF THE MATTER AND OF

HIS OR HER DUTIES IN THE GREAT WORK WHICH MUST BE CARRIED OUT TO FURTHER FOSTER AND CONSOLIDATE GRAIN PRODUCTION AND TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE ON UNSTABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

It was rightly noted today that, to accomplish these tasks, it is highly important to ensure that farm managers and specialists take a creative attitude toward the search for and the utilization of reserves and scientific and advanced practical achievements, once again having in mind without fail their local conditions. This applies to the application of soil and moisture-protecting tilling methods, the selection of the most effective ways of applying fertilizers, improvements in the structure of grain farming, and the efforts to reduce losses and improve the quality of grain.

It has also been correctly noted that, to promote kolkhoz and sovkhoz independence in production planning and organization, it is also necessary to increase the responsibility borne by leaders and specialists for improving production efficiency and the fulfillment of the state plans. In connection with this, it is highly important to keep in mind the proposals made by scientists and practical workers at this conference and at seminars in drafting comprehensive plans for developing kolkhozes and sovkhozes and in working out annual production and finance plans.

THE AGRICULTURAL MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENTS MUST ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN CARRYING OUT THE WORK IN THE FIELD, AND LOCAL PARTY AND SOVIET EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES MUST EXERT EFFICIENT CONTROL OVER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURES SET.

Naturally enough, the development of grain farming and the fulfillment of the plans for grain production and procurement must be constantly in the center of attention in the commission of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium for the agroindustrial complex, and in the councils of oblast and rayon agroindustrial associations.

In their speeches, the conference participants quite rightly emphasized that it was highly important and necessary TO IMPROVE SEED SELECTION AND FARMING. In December, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee examined this question and found many serious shortcomings in the work of the southern branch of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences and of the Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture. Lags have been incurred in the selection of highly productive varieties of buckwheat, millet, rye, oats, and early ripening corn hybrids. The selectioners have been working too little to make grain crops better resistant to unfavorable weather conditions, lodging and plant diseases. A number of varieties produced do not meet production requirements in their quality. There are sore spots in the organization of seed farming, and many seed growing farms are working in an unsatisfactory manner. The Central Committee has assessed these facts in principle and instructed the agricultural ministries, departments and party committees to ensure that the decisions adopted for improving seed selection and farming are complied with. This work must be kept under particular control.

Our conference, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy continued, has drawn up a series of longer-term measures. At the same time, tasks have been set for the current year, and the ways have been fixed to accomplish them. It is particularly important to ACCOMPLISH ALL TASKS CONNECTED WITH PREPARATIONS FOR AND THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SPRING FIELD OPERATIONS IN A COMPETENT AND EFFICIENT MANNER.

In this respect, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have given the republic great assistance. However, a number of oblasts, rayons, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes are still far from having done all that is required. Some farms are extremely slow in preparing seeds, and as a result of this their quality is poorer than last years: a serious lag has been incurred in the repair of equipment and irrigation systems. The training of machine operations has not been duly organized everywhere. Shortcomings are particularly numerous in Vinnitsa, Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporozhye, and Kherson Oblasts.

Having examined the state of preparations for the spring sowing, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee found it unsatisfactory and warned Comrade Ministers M.V. Khorunzhiy, N.A. Korzh, V.A. Lysenko, N.A. Garusha, and I.I. Shmatolyan, as well as Comrade V.L. Filonenko, chairman of the Selkhoztekhnika state committee, that they were personally responsible for ensuring that the spring field campaign is prepared well and on time, and is carried out smoothly. Even more so, it applies to farm, rayon, and oblast leaders. On their part, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms are expected to take effective steps to remedy the situation.

Particular attention is to be paid to increasing the responsibility of kilkhoz and sovkhoz engineering services and of Selkhoztekhnika employees. This must be said because last year all equipment was reported to be fully fit for the sowing campaign, but, on the hot days of sowing, tractors were idleing because of technical defects. Such an attitude on the matter may cause a harm beyond repair.

WE MUST ORGANIZE MATTERS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO OBTAIN A GOOD CROP AND TO FULFILL THE PLAN FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION IRRESPECTIVE OF WEATHER CONDITIONS. That will be both the practical result of our conference, and the quality index of the measures worked out.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy continued to address THE STATE OF AND PRESSING TASKS FOR STOCKBREEDING. The work carried out by party, administrative and agricultural organs in preparing for and organizing cattle wintering, he pointed out, is producing its results. Compared with the corresponding period of 1981, in the fourth quarter of 1982 the milk yields per cow went up 11 percent, gains in weight rose 15 percent in cattle fattening and 11 percent in hog fattening. By the end of the year, the shortfall in milk production was practically overcome, and the 1981 level of milk purchases was exceeded. Compared with the preceding year, gains in the gross weight of cattle and poultry increased.

The upward trend in the productivity of animals and the sales of produce to the state has also been continuing in the current year. In the first 2 weeks of January, the procurements of milk rose 14 percent, those of eggs 7 percent, and also the amount of meat procured was larger than in the same period last year.

WE ARE ABLE TO CONSOLIDATE THE RATES ATTAINED IN INCREASING THE PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENTS OF STOCKBREEDING PRODUCE. The farms have a sufficient number of cattle, and the fodder stocks are more plentiful than last year.

However, the existing possibilities have not been fully used everywhere. Thus, compared with the fourth quarter of 1981, Kharkov Oblast farms have 60 percent more fodder, but per-cow milk yields increased only 4 percent, and the daily weight gains of cattle even declined. Compared with the fourth quarter of 1981, gains in the weight of cattle in fattening also declined at the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Zakarpatskaya, Kiev, Poltava, and Volyn Oblasts. Some farms in Kharkov and Nikolayev Oblasts have failed to adequately organize the preparation of fodder. In some rayons of Sumy and Chenigov Oblasts, not all stockbreeding farms are fully manned.

To consolidate what has been attained and to increase production, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, IT IS NECESSARY TO CONSTANTLY CONTROL THE WORK AT EACH FARM, TO EFFICIENTLY ELIMINATE THE SHORTCOMINGS, AND TO ENSURE THAT FODDER RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY FODDER GRAIN, ARE USED IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY.

Here is the last point: In oblasts and rayons, agroindustrial associations have been set up and the management apparatus has been formed. As is known, the objective of this operation is to eliminate dissocation and parallelism, and to simplify the structure of management in the branches of the agroindustrial complex.

The cadres selected to the new management organs are well qualified, familiar with the organization, economy and specific features of production, adequately experienced and able to accomplish the tasks set.

PARTY COMMITTEES, ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANS, MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO GIVE AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE, TO CREATE FOR THEM CONDITIONS NEEDED TO MANIFEST THEIR INITIATIVE, INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIALIST ENTERPRISING SPIRIT, AND TO HELP THEM DEVELOP AND APPLY A NEW STYLE OF MANAGEMENT BASED ON ECONOMIC METHODS AND COLLECTIVE PRINCIPLES.

EACH AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION MUST WORK SMOOTHLY AND EFFICIENTLY, AND ITS EFFORTS MUST BE AIMED AT INCREASING THE PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENTS OF FARM PRODUCE AND AT IMPROVING THE SUPPLIES OF FOODSTUFFS TO THE POPULATION.

There is a basis to accomplish these tasks. The republic has a big scientific potential. The kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other organizations of the agroindustrial complex possess the qualified cadres of specialists who can be trusted, who can teach and can take responsibility. It is up to basic party organizations, raykoms, gorkoms, and obkoms to make the right use of this great force, to concentrate the efforts of specialists on accomplishing the tasks set, to encourage their initiative and efficiency and to increase their discipline and responsibility. Each case of unsatisfactory labor organization, of not observing the requirements of technology, of inertness and conservatism in the application of everything that is new and progressive must be evaluated strictly and on principle.

At the end Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy thanked the conference participants for the work performed and wished them good labor achievements for the benefit of the beloved motherland.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONGRATULATES METALWORKERS

LD021210 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has congratulated construction workers and operators on the commissioning of the first stage of the Dneprovskiy metallurgical plant oxygen converter complex. The erection of a complex equipped with modern technology, the greetings stresses, is the first stage in the technical refurbishment of one of the oldest and most well-known metallurgical enterprises in the country, and is a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of the 26th party congress decisions on the high-quality and effective development of ferrous metallurgy.

It is important that these capacities are successfully mastered and that working conditions of metallurgical workers are improved, so living accommodation, schools and kindergartens were built simultaneously with the production complex.

The successes of the collective are the result of socialist competition, organization, and discipline. The CPSU Central Committee expresses confidence that the builders and metallurgical workers will successfully fulfill their tasks for completing the reconstruction of the enterprise.

LINER NAMED FOR BREZHNEV LEAVES ON MAIDEN VOYAGE

PM041521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 83 Second Edition p 6

[Report by V. Mertsalov: "Across the Ocean"]

[Text] The comfortable passenger liner Leonid Brezhnev has left Odessa on its maiden voyage, bound for Britain. It has been chartered by the (STS) joint Soviet-British company based in London.

Having taken about 500 sea voyage lovers on board at the British port of Tilbury, the diesel ship will proceed to Rotterdam and Lisbon, and from there across the Atlantic to the Caribbean and will cruise the Antilles. An exhibition devoted to L.I. Brezhnev's life and activity is mounted in one of the ship's lounges.

ANTHOLOGY OF DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED

PM041459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Russia's Foreign Policy"]

[Text] The USSR Foreign Ministry commission for the publication of diplomatic documents (the chairman is Comrade A.A. Gromyko) has published the latest, 13th, volume of "Russia's Foreign Policy in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries" [Vneshnyaya Politika Rossii XIX i Nachala XX Veka]: (1823-1924).

Almost all the documents in the volume are published for the first time. They reveal Russia's relations with Britain, France, Austria, the United States, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Iran, China, Sweden and others.

BRIEFS

DNEPROPETROVSK OBKOM RESHUFFLE -- On 4 February, a Dnepropetrovsk Obkom plenum examined organizational issues. Since Comrade Kachalovskiy has been appointed first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, the plenum relieved him of the duties of Dnepropetrovsk Obkom first secretary and Obkom Bureau member. The plenum elected Comrade Boyko, hitherto Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom chairman, as obkom first secretary. The plenum particpants discussed the task of oblast party organizations, administrative and economic organs for carrying out the spring field operations well on time. The plenum was addressed by Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 4 Feb 83 AU]

VOLYN OBKOM PERSONNEL -- On 22 January, a Volyn Obkom plenum in Lutsk discussed the work performed by party, administrative and economic organs to further improve trade and consumer services in the oblast in the light of the requirements of the 26th CPSU and Ukranian Communisty Party Congresses. A report was delivered by Obkom First Secretary Palazhchenko. The plenum examined an organizational issue. In connection with his retirement, Nikolay Dmitriyevich Popov was relieved of the duties of obkom secretary and Obkom Bureau member. Stefan Andreyevich Kupriyanov, hitherto chief of the obkom's industry and transport department, was elected obkom secretary and bureau member. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 23 Jan 83 AU]

PAPER EDITORIALIZES ON 1982 PLAN FULFILLMENT

PM071139 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 25 Jan 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Every Person Is Responsible for the Plan"]

[Text] The results of the fulfillment of the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR in 1982 have been published. They show that as a whole a further increase has been achieved in social production and the people's welfare. The national income, four-fifths of which is used directly in our country to improve the population's living standards, increased 2.6 percent to total over R500 billion. The increase in production was accompanied by enhanced efficiency.

The people's material and cultural living standards improved. Counting payments and benefits from social consumption funds, the monthly wages of workers and employees increased from R239 to R246. Some 2 million new apartments were constructed in the country and the housing conditions of approximately 10 million people were improved. Many social projects were commissioned.

At the same time targets are not being entirely fulfilled for saving material resources and introducing new equipment and technology. That could not fail to affect the overall results for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. The CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum noted that over this period targets were not fulfilled under a number of the most important headings, including the main indicator of economic efficiency -- labor productivity.

Industry coped with the amplified annual output sales plan. The increase in production output was 2.8 percent. Several technical and economic indicators improved. There was a reduction in the materials-intensiveness of output. Profits rose. The proportion of articles in the top quality category exceeded 15 percent.

The party attaches great significance to accelerated development of the country's fuel and energy complex. This group of sectors fulfilled the output volume targets last year.

And the annual plan for gas and coal extraction was overfulfilled. Now an atmosphere of high exactingness for effective fulfillment of the new targets for extracting and producing and for economizing on fuel and electric and thermal energy must be created in all labor collectives. Fulfillment of the plans for 1983 and the 5-year plan as a whole depends largely on this, the conference at the CPSU Central Committee stressed recently.

The machine building ministries mainly coped with their targets and ensured above-plan production of several types of articles. It is particularly important for the fulfillment of the Food Program that a large number of tractors, agricultural machinery, grain combines, horticultural and truck gardening implements and tools were produced over and above the year's target.

More individual consumer goods, including foodstuffs, were produced then envisaged in the plan. Saturating the market with commodities is a task that remains topical not only for the light and food industry but for the entire economy as a whole.

By no means all industrial collectives worked with equal success. Individual ministries failed to fulfill the plan. In particular the enterprises of the chemical industry and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry failed to cope with the production volume targets. The state of affairs at the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy is causing great alarm.

The year's plan was not fulfilled there for production volume, and labor productivity also declined. The metallurgical workers fell behind in producing a large quantity of finished rolled metal. Consumers received fewer forging and pressing machines and trucks and less commercial timber, cement and mineral fertilizers than envisaged.

Many enterprises of the Ministries of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, Electrical Equipment Industry and Light Industry failed to fulfill their pledges to consumers. The party committees, economic leaders and sectorial staff workers must toughen monitoring of the fulfillment of deliveries in full accordance with contracts and work schedules.

Over the past year industry's material and technical base was considerably strengthened. A further 200 or so enterprises were commissioned, modernization proceeded on a wide scale and retooling took place. The production potential created makes it possible to enter into the work rhythm predetermined by the 5-year plan. The labor collectives' duty is to bring new capacities rapidly up to the planned mode of operation.

Labor productivity growth is a subject of particular concern to industrial workers. This year a higher increase in output than projected by the 5-year plan must be obtained by means of labor productivity growth. A particularly large amount of work must be performed in this direction by the party and economic leaders and all workers in those sectors where a reduction in productivity has been allowed by comparison with the start of the 5-year plan -- in the oil and coal industry and ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy.

The main reserves for increasing it lie in the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the extensive and rapid introduction of advanced experience into production. These are precisely the levers which are primarily being put into operation by the front-runnings in socialist competition. Here are some lines from the pledges published in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA. The miners at the Dzhezkazgan mining and metallurgical combine intend to double the average sectorial labor productivity indicator. To increase by at least 19 percent the average drilling of boreholes for each team is the promise made by the drillers from the Yugansknefteqaz association. The workers of the Novopolotsknefteorgsintez association intend to double the planned increase in output while reducing the number of workers.

The best support for such initiatives is improved administrative work at all levels. Unfortunately, in a number of ministries this is being done slowly and inconsistently. Proper control has not been established over the introduction of advanced experience.

The consolidation of order and discipline in all production and management sectors and the further development of the working masses' creative activeness will help guarantee the successful fulfillment of the stepped up targets for the core year of the 5-year plan.

TASS COMMENTATOR ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD071550 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS commentator Vladimir Novikov writes:

The figures published in the Soviet press concerning the economic development of the union republics in 1982 leave nothing of the allegations made by certain biased Western experts about a "crisis" of the Soviet economy.

These figures show that all 15 republics increased their national incomes, production, and raised the living standards of their population.

True, these figures are not identical in all republics. Thus in the Russian Federation, the biggest republic, industrial output went up 2.5 per cent, in Uzbekistan (Central Asia) -- 3.8 per cent and in Moldavia -- 8.8 per cent. On the whole the national income of the Soviet Union increased 2.6 per cent during the year to exceed, for the first time, 500 billion roubles. Industrial enterprises increased their output by 2.8 per cent.

If we take a longer period the advantages of the socialist planned economy and its steady, crisis-free development will become still more obvious. During the last three decades the mean annual growth rates of national income and industrial output in the Soviet Union were more than twice as high as that in the USA and other developed capitalist countries. As a result, the gap in the economic indicators of the Soviet Union and the United States narrowed considerably. In 1950 the national income of the Soviet Union was 31 per cent of that of the USA and its industrial output was less than 30 per cent of that in the USA. At present the national income of the Soviet Union is 67 per cent of that of the USA and its industrial output is over 80 per cent of that of the leading country of the capitalist world. The Soviet Union has moved to first place in the world for the output of oil, iron ore, steel and pig iron, and other major products.

At a time when the economies of developed capitalist countries are marking time and their industrial output has even declined in recent hears -- in some of them, Britain, for instance, by a considerable margin -- the Soviet Union continues to go ahead.

The steady development of the Soviet economy offers a good basis for the growth of the welfare of the Soviet people. During the last ten years the real incomes of the population of the USSR have increased fifty per cent. Medical services in the USSR are improving and educational and cultural standards rising. Expenditures on these purposes keep growing. Every year over ten million people move to new flats.

There is no doubt that all these positive processes will continue in the years to come.

FURTHER REPORT ON REPUBLICS' PRODUCTION RESULTS

LD041009 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] The central statistical directorares of Moldavia, Lativa, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, and Estonia have reported on the results of the work of the union republics' industry during the second year of the 11th 5-Year Plan. The annual plans for the marketing of production were fulfilled by the industry of Latvia, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan and overfulfilled by the industry of Armenia and Estonia. In Moldavia, the increase in industrial production amounted to 8.9 percent.

TV EXAMINES SHORTCOMINGS AT PODOLSK PLANT

LD072018 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast; correspondent Khatayevich film report from the Podolsk cable works]

[Excerpts] The results of the first month of the year have been summarized at the country's enterprises. An analysis of them determines the path for the further growth of production. At the Podolsk cable works, in the January figure on the plan fulfillment chart, there appears the figure, regrettable, of only 97 percent and not 100. Why? Let us have a look [Camera provides shots of cable-making equipment.] Cable-covering machines are standing idle: Instead of at least 300 tons of insulating plastic, the works received a mere 114 tons in January. The chemical workers of Dzerzhinsk in Gorkiy Oblast and of Vladimir and Novosibirsk are behind schedule. And instead of 2.5 tons of this capron resin, from Kemerovo, not a single kilogram has been forthcoming. Once again, equipment lies idle. Three percent of unfulfilled plan is equivalent to 135 kilometers of the most varied kinds of cable and wire every 24 hours. Of course, a considerable part of these losses are the result of violations of supply discipline, but obviously this 3 percent also includes elements for which the collective must bear responsibility.

Throughout the works as a whole 1,100 working shifts were lost last year as a result of absenteeism, and they are accounted for in the main by the two-thirds of the collective which is still working in the old way.

As far as the organization of socialist competition at the works is concerned, not everything is to the liking of the Communists or frontranking workers. You recall: publicity, comparing of results, dissemination of expertise. But what kind of publicity is this when the shop board of results shows the results of the third quarter of last year at this very moment?

[Camera shows figure identified by caption as works director G.G. Tovmasyan]

[Tovmasyan] Indeed we still have a great many shortcomings and a great many reserves which we should make use of in order to fulfill the state plan for the current year and the 5-year plan as a whole. We are now adopting measures so as to reduce losses in labor time. I would stress that as far as chemical enterprises are concerned, this phenenomenon recurs year in and year out and that discipline should be total, beginning with the minister and ending with the worker.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADOPTS FIELDWORK DECISION

PM071435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS "Official Section"]

[Text] On Additional Measures in Preparing and Conducting the Spring Sowing

In accordance with a decision of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution "On Additional Measures in Preparing and Carrying Out Spring Fieldwork in 1983."

The USSR Council of Ministers instructed union republic councils of ministers, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomselkhoztekhnika], the USSR Ministry of Procurement, the USSR Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, the Tsentrosoyuz, the councils of ministers of autonomous republics, local soviet ispolkoms, agroindustrial associations, and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders to ensure that spring fieldwork is carried out to a high agrotechnical standard in 1983. To this end they are instructed:

To adopt additional measures to ensure that kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises and organizations are fully supplied with high quality seed and planting material, that the machine and tractor pool is prepared for work in good time, and that farms are fully staffed with machine operator cadres;

To increase the efficiency of farms, utilization of organic and mineral fertilizers, chemical plant-protection agents, irrigated and drained land, and machinery and other material resources.

Union republic councils of ministers, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences are instructed:

To define the regions and farms in which agricultural crops will be cultivated by industrial techniques in 1983 and ensure that they allocate on a special-purpose basis the necessary machinery, high quality see, mineral fertilizers, herbicides, toxic chemicals, and other material and technical resources;

To launch extensively, before the start of fieldwork, the training of machine operators and agricultural specialists in the methods of cultivating agricultural crops by industrial techniques.

The relevant ministries and departments are instructed to ensure the delivery to agriculture and water resources enterprises, in the first half of 1983, of the petroleum products needed for the spring fieldwork on the basis of the stocks allocated for the period, irrespective of quarterly allocations.

Union republic councils of ministers, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Goskomselhoztekhnika, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry and their local organs are instructed:

To adopt urgent measures to speed up the shipment of fuel and lubricants to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises with a view to creating on each farm before the start of the spring fieldwork stocks of petroleum products in a quantity sufficient to ensure uninterrupted work by the machine and tractor pool during the period of the spring sowing;

To eliminate shortcomings in the expenditure of fuel and lubricants, ensure their efficient utilization and improve the organization of norm-setting, accounting and storage of petroleum products.

The Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, the Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine Building and other ministries and departments are instructed to ensure, in the first half of 1983, the preferential delivery for agricultural and water resources needs of spare parts for tractors, trucks, soil cultivation and sowing machines, machines for unloading perishable goods, excavators, earth-moving and construction machinery and power pump equipment, and also electrical equipment for tractors, motor vehicle batteries, drive belts, rubber goods, and roller bearings. Particular attention is drawn to the need for the balanced delivery of spare parts to the republics, krays and oblasts.

A target is also set for the preferential delivery of equipment, construction materials and other materials to agriculture and water resources enterprises and enterprises and organizations of the USSR Ministry of Rural Construction.

The industrial ministries are instructed to manufacture and deliver to agriculture additional spare parts for tractors, trucks, agricultural machinery and other machinery, as well as machines, equipment, materials and subassemblies, herbicides and toxic chemicals.

The USSR Gossnab and the ministries concerned are instructed to deliver as a priority in 1983 (regardless of the fulfillment of production plans), on the basis of the stocks allocated, rolled ferrous and nonferrous metals, pipes, materials, billets, and subassemblies to enterprises manufacturing tractors, trucks, trailers, earth-loving machinery, agricultural machines, and spare parts (including deliveries under additional targets set by the resolution).

The USSR Gosbank is permitted, as an exception, until 1 June 1983, to grant individual kolkhozes that are experiencing temporary financial difficulties and that submit well-substantiated applications short-term credit to pay for the cost of spare parts and materials needed for repair purposes, petroleum products and fodder, expenditure connected with the exchange of seed (including transportation), and the cost of seed allocated from state resources, mineral fertilizers, herbicides and toxic chemicals, regardless of the existence of overdue debts on USSR Gosbank loans.

The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification is instructed to adopt the necessary measures to ensure uninterrupted supplies of electricity to kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises, as well as enterprises in the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika system engaged in the repair of machinery for spring fieldwork.

The Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the RSFSR Ministry of the River Fleet are instructed to ensure the priority supply (according to plan) of freightcars, ships and containers for the shipment of machines (including trucks, truck and tractor trailers and semitrailers), equipment, spare parts, tires, rolled metal products, timber and construction materials, petroleum products, mineral fertilizers, pesticides, and other materials necessary for the preparation and implementation of spring fieldwork, and to monitor the movement along the railroads and waterways of trains and ships carrying freight intended for agriculture and for the construction of irrigation and drainage systems and other facilities for the agroindustrial complex.

The procedure which operated last year for bringing in tractor and machine operators from industrial, transport and other enterprises, institutions and organizations for the spring field work on kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises experiencing a shortage of machine operators is retained for 1983, as an exception.

Union republic councils of ministers are instructed to increase exactingness toward leaders of republic ministers and departments, agroindustrial associations, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and to increase their personal responsibility for the implementation of measures to ensure timely preparation for the successful conducting of the spring sowing in 1983.

Supplementing the Capital's Water Resources

With a view to further developing sources of reliable drinking water supplies to the population and industrial enterprises in the capital, the USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution "On the Construction of the Rzhev Hydro Scheme on the Volga River for Moscow's Water Supply."

The RSFSR Council of Ministers, Moscow Gorispolkom and USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification are instructed to ensure in 1983-1989 the elaboration of design and costing documentation for the construction of the Rzhev hydro scheme, the implementation of its construction and the fulfillment of operations connected with the creation of the hydro scheme reservoir. Targets are set for the sanitary preparation of the reservoir's flood zone, the construction of roads in the region of the hydro scheme, and other types of operation.

The USSR Council of Ministers also examined a number of other questions and adopted appropriate resolutions, including:

Improving the utilization of industrial (commerical) ferrous metals waste;

Measures to develop the production of glass pipes and extend their use in the national economy;

Measures to ensure the commissioning of projects and capacities for the thorough refining of petroleum.

TASS ANNOUNCES COSMOS-1402 REACTOR CORE BURNED UP

LD071543 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 7 Feb 83

["TASS Announcement" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- According to data of competent Soviet organisations tracking the flight of the Sputnik Cosmos-1402, its fragments, constituting the fuel core of the reactor of the nuclear power plant, entered the dense layers of the atmosphere over the southern part of the Atlantic at 13 hours 56 minutes Moscow time on February 7, 1983 and burned up entirely.

From this time the Sputnik Cosmos-1402, launched in the Soviet Union on August 30, 1982, totally ceased its existence.

Analyst on Cosmos Program

LD071736 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS science news analyst Fedor Petrov writes:

The artificial satellite of the earth Cosmos-1402 which has ceased to exist belonged to a series of Soviet spacecraft designed to carry out an extensive scientific programme for exploration of outer space. Over the period of more than twenty years, the Cosmos satellites -- the first one was launched on March 16, 1962 -- have made a big contribution to the solution of many matters connected with the study of the upper layers of the atmosphere and near-earth space. The satellites promoted, in particular, the successful accomplishment of the flights of Soviet manned spaceships Vostok, Voskhod, and Soyuz, brought nearer a possibility of creating orbital stations.

As a source of power on board the Cosmos-1402 there was a plant which included a small-size nuclear reactor.

As has already been reported, on December 28, 1982, the satellite, equipped with a safety system in accordance with international recommendations, completed the programme of work and ceased active existence. A command from the earth actuated a system which switched off the reactor and separated the satellite into three fragments, one of which burned up in the dense layers of the atmosphere on December 30.

The two other fragments -- the bulk of the satellite's construction and the fuel core of the reactor -- likewise entered the dense layers of the atmosphere and burned up: one at the end of January and the other on February 7. The extraction of the fuel core with radioactive products of fission from the reactor guaranteed its complete burning up.

The accomplishment of the scientific research programme by means of the "Cosmos" satellites promotes further practical utilisation of the near-earth space for the good of mankind.